

Newfie News



That
Newfoundland
Place
Rescue With A Heart

June 2024

VOLUME 5

ISSUE 10

What to do in an Emergency... When Your Vet is Closed

May is National Pet Preparedness Month and a great time to create a plan for the emergencies that happen when your pet becomes ill or has an accident. Obviously, getting your Newf to the vet as soon as possible is top of mind, but so often it seems disaster strikes at 5:05 pm on Friday night, just after your vet has closed and your dog simply can't wait until the next morning when they open. A little bit of planning and preparation can reduce stress during an emergency for both you and your dog.

Best practices

1. Get a Baseline on Behaviors

Know what is normal behavior for your pet and be alert to any changes.

2. ID your dog

Your Newf should always wear a collar and updated identification tag, as well as be microchipped. This helps veterinary professionals quickly identify your pet if she is found and in an emergency situation.

3. Regular check-ups

Routine veterinary visits can help identify health issues before they become emergencies.

4. Create a safe environment

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Don't Miss the Next TNP Open House

Come visit TNP at 554 Pucker Street, Coventry, Connecticut on **June 2** from Noon to 3 pm. Other Open House dates include:

July 21
August 25

Meet TNP rescue staff and adopters while enjoying pizza and soft drinks and learning about the Newfoundland breed. Applications for adoption and plenty of breed information will be available. Some of the dogs available for adoption may be on site to meet as well. Dogs are not adopted during an Open House; they are meet and greet events only.

Be sure to circle October 6 on your calendar, the tentative date for the infamous *TNP Annual Reunion and Fundraiser*.

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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

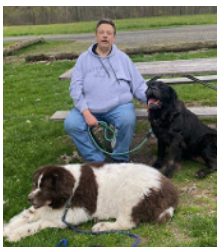
Koko went to her new home in Haddam, Connecticut with Sue, Harry, and Biscuit Shea on April 14.

"We're getting used to her and she's getting used to us," Harry said. Biscuit, 11, and Koko, 5, had a bit of a rough first week with an altercation but after just a few weeks were settling in together, lying next to each other. "They are learning boundaries between each other," Sue said.

Harry and Sue have found that Koko is very food motivated. She is a fast eater and has stolen food off the counter. Koko is eating a separate room from Biscuit right now and is using a "slow feeder" dog bowl. Sue noted that Koko also thrives on affection and learns quickly. "She's a smart girl," Sue said. They are currently working on simple commands such as sit and stay.

Biscuit has also been a teacher for Koko. "We can tell the calming influence Biscuit is on Koko," Harry said. "It's good for her to see he's mellow," Sue added. "She gets less excited."

Koko went for a solo walk with Harry and Sue and at a nearby state park and Harry noted "you could tell it was a totally new experience for her." Koko got a bit excited on the leash when she encountered other dogs but Sue noted overall she did well. Harry and Sue often take their dogs for hikes in the state parks and nearby trails and Biscuit joined them on another walk. They found the biggest challenge to be the age difference in the dogs as Biscuit can't walk as far as Koko. As a solution, Harry and Koko took a longer route while Sue and Biscuit waited for them to circle back.



Koko is the Shea's 4th Newfoundland, all of them rescue, with 3 coming from That Newfoundland Place. They were Labrador Retriever owners prior to the Newfs, but their last Lab was very special and they did not want to compare future Labs to that dog after it passed. Harry always liked Newfs so they adopted their first Newf, Fred, in 2013. In June 2017 they adopted 2-year-old Vivien – who passed away a couple of months ago – from Big Fluffy Dogs rescue, and Biscuit in 2018 from TNP.

Harry and Sue are confident Koko will be just as wonderful as their other Newfs.



TNP Open House continued from page 1

All well behaved, leashed dogs are welcome to attend events, but be mindful of extreme heat.

Events are held rain or shine and are free to attend.

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

Expert Excerpts

By Dr. Lauren Flanagan
Pepperell (MA) Veterinary Hospital

Fleas and Mange

The skin is the largest organ in the body. There are so many diseases that can affect the skin and since the skin only has one way to react to injury, many of these diseases can look very similar. Commonly with our patients when the skin is injured, inflamed, or irritated, what we see is scratching, itching, licking, and open sores on their body. While there are many conditions that can cause these problems, we're going to focus on a selection of ectoparasites today, i.e. parasites that live on the skin.

Fleas are ubiquitous. Even indoor pets can get them. Every animal has a different tolerance to irritations from fleabites. There are some animals that are actually allergic to fleas and a single fleabite can send them into scratching misery. While this may seem just to be an annoyance, it can cause health problems. All the scratching can cause hair loss, open sores, secondary skin infections, but more seriously fleas can also be the source of systemic health concerns. Ingestion of fleas, which commonly occurs when the animal is chewing on itself, can spread tapeworms. Fleabites can also spread Bartonella, a bacteria that can cause significant disease in your dog. Flea infestations can lead to blood loss anemia as well.

Another common ectoparasite problem in the dog is "mange". We commonly deal with two different types of mange, one called Sarcoptic mange, which is caused by an infection with the contagious mite species, Sarcoptes. The other is Demodectic mange, which is caused by a non-contagious mite species, Demodex.

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Get Your Dog Tested to be a Canine Good Citizen at the TNP Open House

That Newfoundland Place will be holding Canine Good Citizen(CGC) and Trick Dog testing at the June 2nd Open House. All breeds/dogs are welcome!

The CGC test Canine Good Citizen is a 10-skill test that teaches good manners to dogs and responsible dog ownership to their owners. It is a fun, functional title that any dog and their owner can achieve. Find out more about the test at:

<https://www.akc.org/.../canine-good-citizen-test-items/>

There is a \$30* evaluation fee per dog per test, and owners will be given all paperwork to submit to AKC to mail in with a \$30 fee for AKC to process your dog's new title. Your dog does not need to be AKC registered to be a Canine Good Citizen. Dogs that do not have AKC registration documentations can receive a PALS number, which allows you and your dog to participate in AKC companion dog events. Use this link for additional information:

<https://www.akc.org/.../purebred-alternative-listing-pal/>.

Trick dog testing is a fun way to show off your smart dog! A list of approved tricks can be found at



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<https://www.akc.org/sports/trick-dog/>. If your dog passes the CGC testing first, he/she only has to perform 5 tricks. If you would only like to test for the trick dog title, your dog will need to perform 10 tricks.

If you and your dog pass your CGC testing, That Newfoundland Place will cover half of the evaluation fee (\$15 off) for the CGC testing!

If you and your dog pass your Trick Dog testing, That Newfoundland Place will cover half of the evaluation fee (\$15 off) for the Trick dog testing!

If you would like your dog tested for one or both tests, or if you have any questions, e-mail

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Shyann@thatnewfoundlandplace.org.

*please note that the \$30 evaluation fee for testing goes towards the evaluator. There is an additional charge payable directly to AKC when you submit your PALS/CGC/Trick dog paperwork.

What to do in an Emergency...When Your Vet is Closed continued from page 1

Be aware of what's happening at home and when you travel that may be hazardous to your Newf, including toxic foods and plants, securing trash, and monitoring activity with bones and toys. Closely supervise your pet and keep them on their leash during walks to prevent fights with other animals or accidents with vehicles.

5. First Aid Know How

Keep a well-stocked pet first aid kit at home and in the car. (See sidebar for what should be in the kit). Learn how to perform basic first aid, CPR, and how to apply pressure to stop bleeding.

Prepare for an After-Hours Emergency

1. Have Your Dog's Medical Records Available

Have a complete copy of your pet's medical records readily available. Ask your veterinarian for records if you don't have them. This is critical if your dog has a recurring condition or chronic illness. Have a list of medications (a picture of each medication is a great way to record the information), most recent bloodwork and diagnostic results. These records can save the emergency vet time in knowing the exact treatment your Newf has been getting.

2. Know Your Nearest Emergency Clinic

Be sure you have the phone number and address of the closest emergency vet in your cell phone. If there is more than one option, your primary veterinarian can give you a recommendation. If you are on vacation with your dog, research that information before you travel.

3. Have an Emergency Fund

Just like with humans, emergency care is expensive and your pet is much less likely to have

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Animal First Aid Kit

There are a number of first aid kits specifically for dogs and pets available for purchase or you can create one with human-grade



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items. Be sure to have a kit in the car as well when traveling. Suggested items include:

- Self adhesive bandage wrap
- gauze pads and bandages
- Cotton swabs
- alcohol free cleansing wipes or spray
- antibiotic spray/ointment
- saline to flush out eyes
- tick remover/tweezers
- Benadryl for allergic reactions (consult your vet for dosage)
- spray-on plaster for larger wounds or wounds that are awkward to wrap
- foil blanket in the event of shock
- blanket to transport
- towels
- digital thermometer
- scissors
- gloves

Review the February 2021 edition of the TNP newsletter for more information on dog CPR and first aid:

<https://thatnewfoundlandplace.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/February-2021.pdf>

medical insurance than you. You don't want to worry about cost when there is a crisis and your Newf's life is at stake. Consider pet insurance *before* an emergency. Even if you do have pet insurance, it won't cover 100% of an emergency visit and insurance may not be an option for an older pet. Having a dedicated savings account (\$5,000-\$7,500 is recommended) will eliminate some of the stress during this time and hopefully allow you to get the best care to your pet without having to compromise on testing or treatments. Consider a VET care card if you have less than perfect credit and creating a savings account is too challenging.

4. Share the Information

If your pets will be staying with a sitter when you are away, be sure to leave the sitter with the medical records and emergency vet information. If it will be difficult to reach you during off hours you may also want to leave behind a credit card.

Is it an emergency? What do I do?

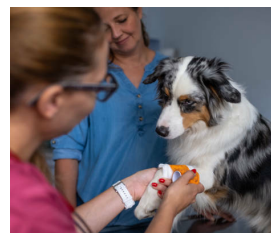
It seems sometimes our pets find ways to eat something they shouldn't have, have an accident, or suddenly fall ill. The first step in responding to an emergency is knowing when your dog is in distress and needs attention. Signs include:

Abdominal swelling or distention: This is a classic sign of a twisted stomach and bloat, also called GDV (gastric dilation and volvulus). Seek medical attention immediately.

Birthing problems: If your dog is having stalled labor, excessive pushing without results, or showing signs of distress, get her to the vet immediately.

Bleeding: If blood spurts from a wound or injury, or it does not stop bleeding after 10 to 15 minutes of pressure, seek medical help. Bleeding from the mouth, nose, rectum, or blood in the urine is often an emergency.

Burns and smoke inhalation: If your pet has been burned, cool the area with cold water (rinse with a large amount of water for chemical burns) and seek immediate veterinary care.

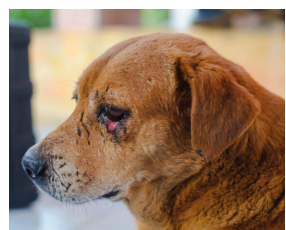


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Collapse or Weakness: If your pet collapses or is unable to stand, has persistent loss of balance or stumbling, seek immediate attention.

Diarrhea and vomiting: Persistent diarrhea or vomiting (more than 2 episodes in 24 hours) can lead to dehydration and may be a sign for other serious issues.

Difficulty breathing: Stopped breathing, increased breathing, excessive panting, abnormal respiratory noises, choking, or continuous coughing or gagging are all emergencies.



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Eye injuries: If any object punctured or lacerated your Newf's eye, seek immediate veterinary attention.

Gum Color Changes: Pale or purple/blue gums can mean that your dog is not getting enough oxygen and is considered an emergency.

Heat stroke: Dogs with heavy double coats (i.e. Newfs) are susceptible to heat stroke, even on days that do not feel excessively hot to humans. If your dog is panting excessively or has a high-temperature, move him to a cooler environment, place cool wet towels on his belly, provide water to drink, and get to the vet immediately.

Inability to Urinate or Defecate: This could be caused by a blockage or other serious issues and requires immediate attention. Note that male cats could have urinary obstructions which are life-threatening.

Insect Bites or Stings: Remove the stinger if visible and apply a cold compress. If you notice difficulty breathing or other signs of an allergic reaction, seek immediate veterinary attention.

Lethargy: Sudden lack of energy or disinterest in moving or eating for more than 24 hours can mean underlying health problems and may need immediate attention.

Loss of rear legs: This paralysis can be a symptom of tick paralysis or spinal injury and requires immediate veterinary care.

Penetrating wounds: Bite wounds or stab wounds can cause significant internal damage in the muscles and easily become infected even if the wound looks minor on the surface.

Poisoning: If you suspect your dog may have been exposed to or ingested a toxin – such as some human foods, plants, insecticides and pesticides, and medication - it's an emergency.

Seizures: An isolated seizure is unlikely to be life-threatening, however, seizures lasting for more than 2-3 minutes or having more than 2-3 seizures in a 24-hour period require urgent veterinary care. If you witness your dog having a seizure, be sure to time the duration and note the number of seizures to provide accurate information to the vet.



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Severe pain: If your dog is vocalizing or biting when an area of the body is touched, or limping or avoiding putting pressure on a limb, seek immediate treatment.

Snake bites: If your Newf has been bitten by a snake or you have seen a snake near your Newf seek immediate medical attention. You may notice swelling around the bite, changes in breathing, or collapse.

Trauma: Examples include being hit by a car, falling from a height, fights with other animals, attacks or kicks by other animals, and blunt force. Even if you don't notice any outward injuries, there could be extensive internal injuries and you should seek immediate medical attention.

Unconsciousness is always an emergency and requires immediate care.

Some symptoms such as coughing or not eating may not seem like an emergency and can possibly wait until your regular vet opens. The best thing to do in this case is trust your instinct. If you think your Newf is just not behaving quite right, call the emergency vet. By asking a few questions over the phone, they can help you decide if your pet needs immediate medical attention or if it is not a true emergency.

Action Steps

Having clear action steps will help you get the attention your dog needs as soon as possible.

Stay Calm: Your Newf can read your emotions. If you are

Blood donors needed

Most emergency vets have a pet blood bank for cases that require a blood transfusion, which could save a patient's life. Blood has a storage lifespan of only 35 days, so regular donations from canine blood donors are very much needed. Contact your veterinarian or emergency veterinarian for more information on blood donations.

excited and nervous, he will sense the urgency, which could make the situation worse.

Assess the Situation: If you didn't see what happened to your dog, check the environment to avoid further danger to your dog or you. Observe your dog's behavior, symptoms, and breathing. Check for wounds and obvious broken bones. You may also need to check their heart rate, temperature, and level of consciousness depending on the injury or symptoms.

Contact the Vet: If it's after hours, call the nearest emergency/urgent care pet clinic immediately. Be as clear and concise about the situation and your dog's symptoms as accurately as possible and follow their instructions.

Perform basic pet first aid: Apply gentle pressure to wounds with a clean cloth or bandage. Elevate the injured area if possible. Try to immobilize the area yet be cautious not to cause additional harm.

Handle your Newf carefully: Try to stabilize her without causing additional injury or stress. Keep in mind that injured animals may react defensively. Minimize handling and movement, but allow her to get comfortable.

Transportation: Make sure you have a reliable vehicle to use or borrow and drive with care. Bring someone with you if possible, to help stabilize your Newf.

Having a plan can save you precious minutes during an emergency, and perhaps your Newf's life.

Resources/More information:

<https://emergency-vets.com/topics/emergency-situations/pet-emergency-dog-cat-prepare-tips/>
<https://www.trussvet.com/navigating-pet-emergencies-when-to-take-action-and-what-steps-to-follow/>
<https://animalemergencyservice.com.au/blog/when-to-go-to-the-emergency-vet/>
<https://www.newhopeanimalhospital.com/site/blog/2022/11/22/what-to-do-pet-emergency>

It's Hot Out!

Don't Leave Your Pet in the Car!



A car can overheat **even** when the window has been left cracked an inch or two.



Young, overweight or elderly animals, or those with short muzzles or thick or dark-colored coats are **most** at risk for overheating.



Shady spots offer **little** protection on hot days, and move with the sun.

90°

Even if the temperature outside is only 70°, the inside of your car may be as much as 20 degrees hotter!

102°

On an 85° day, it only takes ten minutes for the inside of your car to reach 102°.

120°

Within just 30 minutes, the car's interior can climb from 85° to a scorching 120°.

According to the American Veterinary Medical Association, each year hundreds of animals die from heat exhaustion from being left in parked cars. Don't let your Newf be one of them! Don't leave your dog in a parked car in warm temperatures for any amount of time. Learn more at <https://www.aspc.org/news/dogs-hot-cars-and-other-summer-dangers>

Thank You to TNP Foster Families

June is National Foster a Pet Month and TNP could not work with the number of dogs they do each year without the fabulous network of foster homes.

Rescue foster families spend hours at veterinary appointments, carefully rehabilitate dogs that have had surgery, and train dogs with leash and house manners, or simply how to be a dog, all to give the dogs the best chance at a successful placement in their new home.



Lori Babcock fostered Val (l) and Jelly Bean (r) last year. Both are thriving in their new homes.



**Support TNP through
Amex Round-up**

<https://www.americanexpress.com/en-us/banking/round-up/frequently-asked-questions/>

Expert Excerpts - continued from page 3

Sarcoptic mange causes intense itching, typically results in hair loss and open sores with heavy crusts, commonly along ear margins and elbows, but it can spread to the entire body. These dogs are very, very, very itchy. They'll stop eating to itch, they will stop playing to itch. Most commonly the source of infection is from wildlife, either direct exposure by contact or by exposure to contaminated environments.

Demodectic mange has variable levels of itchiness. Typically, we see Demodex in puppies, or immune compromised adult dogs. The Demodex mite normally lives on the skin of the dog. Typically, it's a symbiotic relationship and it doesn't create problems, but in the young animals with immature immune systems or older animals with compromised immune systems, sometimes the mite can be bothersome to the host. Most often what people notice are small patches of circular hair loss, sometimes with mild scabbing, and again, intensity of itch is variable.

Fortunately, for our pets, there are many excellent treatment options and preventive options available on the market today. We are all aware of both the topical and oral flea and tick products available to prevent infestation. Depending on your dog's sensitivity to flea bites and any other health concerns, topical may be better than oral, a discussion to have with your veterinarian. The majority of these products also are effective against both species of mange. This is considered off label use though, because it has not been approved to use in this manner, so again a discussion to have with your veterinarian.

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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