

TRAINING IS FUN!

The chances are pretty slim that your dog will end up on TV's stupid pet tricks, but we can all try! Training can be fun, but more important, it can save a life!

Teaching your dog to "COME" is essential and it's easy to do, with some time, patience and a good snack. SIT, STAY, DOWN etc are bonuses that make your life easier and better. It takes some time to do these things, but it's worth it!

Use the "Say Please" program. This is a program to teach your dog to politely ask for things before they are given. This is an easy way to become your dog's gentle leader and to decrease your dog's "Velcro" tendencies. All you do is ask your dog to sit before you do anything for him or her and give praise after he or she sits. For

instance: Sit before being pet, sit before being greeted, sit before putting a leash on, sit before opening the door, sit before putting the food bowl down, sit before giving a treat, sit before throwing a ball, sit before getting in the crate.

Main Line Animal Rescue has never had an adoption fee, but we always recommend that you take the money that you would have spent on adopting and take a class with your new pup! Finding a class is easy, finding a GOOD class or trainer takes some homework. We do not recommend any trainer who uses punishment, in any way, to train your dog. This includes prong collars or remote shock collars etc. , yelling, threatening or hitting. These will only cause fear in your dog, which often leads to aggression.

There are excellent dog trainers; you just have to ask the right questions.

Beyond class, every part of your dogs' day should involve training.

Good morning, here is your breakfast should illicit a "Sit", let's go outside and go potty, should give you what you ask for.

"Off" when a dog jumps up on you, should be respected, "Come", when they are called is necessary!

Nothing in life is free, should be your training motto. If your dog wants you to pet him, then ask for a sit, or a down. Use their desires to achieve your desires for excellent behavior...and maybe a little stupid pet trick will find the way into his repertoire!

Exercise your dogs mind and body for a healthy pet!