

The Ranch at Etna Road

Information for privates or class!

Our goal is to sponsor classes that blend effective, humane management techniques with positive reinforcement training methods. We believe that positive reinforcement training is the most effective and humane method of creating happy, eager and joyful partnerships between animals and humans. We will be focusing & working on Self Control Skills.

What is Positive Reinforcement?

Positive Reinforcement is a training method based on the science of operant conditioning (*which is a set of scientific principles about why animals change their behavior*). Behavior is changed when it is reinforced. You will learn the fun, joy, challenge and the effectiveness of training your dog by positively reinforcing behaviors you want. We'll show you how through good management to extinguish behaviors you don't want. You will learn to lead, but not to dominate.

The Important Details!

After we receive your completed Enrollment Form, Temperament Evaluation Questionnaire and signed Liability Waiver, we will confirm by phone or e-mail that you are registered.

We start on time! Please get there a few minutes ahead of time to be sure that you have all your training aids set up. Give yourself enough time to walk your dog so s/he can relieve themselves before class. Be prepared to clean up after your animal.

**PLEASE NOTE: YOU MUST HAVE ALL YOUR VACCINES IN PLACE:
DISTEMPER, RABIES (when age appropriate) and
BORDATELLA (REQUIRED EVERY 6 MONTHS)****

Driving Directions:

From 89 exit 18 follow signs toward Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center and Hanover. From the South, it's your 2nd set of lights, from the North it's your 3rd set of lights, take a right onto Etna Road. We are the second building on your left (big yellow building with white fence)

BRING the following TO EVERY PRIVATE or CLASS:

- Bring LOTS of tasty bite size (one chew) food treats Really good smelly treats like hot dogs, string cheese, etc. You'll need at least 2 cups of treats. NO hard dog biscuits.
- Favorite toy (ball, Kong, pull toy) or a chew toy
- Your dog should be wearing a flat buckle collar (no choke or pinch collars). If you have a gentle leader be sure to have it on your dog when you come into class.
- 6' leash nylon, canvas or leather (not a chain leash). No Flexi-leads during training class.
- For all agility classes use a lead with no loop handle

Don't feed your dog during the half-day before coming to private or class.

Of course he can have all the water he needs. Positive reinforcement with food only works if your dog is hungry!!!! Don't spend lots of playtime with your PUPPY before class or he'll be too tired to learn. Do play with your adolescent dogs 15 minutes or so before class so they can work off their extra energy and concentrate. Do your playing at home before driving to class. Use your judgment - you want to train your dog when he can focus and learn.

**For the best results the puppy or the adult dog will need to be
HUNGRY, ALERT & FOCUSED.**

*If your dog is hungry, alert and focused he'll learn quickly,
develop self-control and work eagerly for the reward.*