



# The Way Home

An outreach e-communication from Papillon Haven Rescue (PapHaven)

Issue #78

www.paphaven.org

January 2013

1,200+ rescued & counting! Celebrating 10 years in 2013!

## Does Your Dog Need a Coat?

by Jeff Van Dalsum -- <http://perfectpuppycare.com/does-your-dog-need-a-coat/>

Cold winter temperatures don't discriminate between humans and canines. The onset of winter weather is a reminder to us to get the warm coats out of the closet, cleaned and prepped for wear.

Now that you are ready for a walk in a winter wonderland, it's time to consider whether your dog needs a coat to stay warm.

Some folks tend to smirk at dogs wearing coats. While many owners do dress their canine friends to make a fashion statement, others buy doggie coats, sweaters and jackets to keep their pets warm and comfortable when Mother Nature blows an onslaught of winter weather their way.

There are several things to consider when debating whether or not your dog needs clothing to keep him or her warm. One is that dogs that are raised in cities often tend to have thinner coats than those raised in the country. The main reason for this is that rural dogs generally spend more time outdoors

than urban dogs. Thus, country dogs are more apt to be able to handle colder temperatures than city dogs. However, this rule is far from being etched in stone.

It is important to note that doggie coats are not one hundred percent effective in keeping a canine warm. It is one means of combating the cold weather with an extra layer of insulation, but great care still needs to be taken to protect your pet from freezing temperatures.

Each dog is different when it comes to cold weather. How can you tell if your dog needs extra insulation?

If you are unsure about whether or not Rover needs a coat, consult his veterinarian. It is helpful if you have a clean bill of health for the dog.

Prior to the onset of cold, winter weather take the dog for a checkup to rule out any health issues that can affect body temperature. Problems such as kidney or heart disease can leave Rover more vulnerable to cold weather. A non-threatening problem such as a hormone imbalance can also affect how a dog deals with cold weather.

The length of a dog's hair can also be a determining factor in how well he or she stands up against Mother Nature's winter attack. Long-haired breeds such as Siberian huskies, Alaskan malamutes, Labradors or Norwegian elkhounds usually tend to fare better than those such as dachshunds, grey-



Bella Fournier wears her lovely pink fleece coat while out on a hike with her Momma and her sister, Trisha.

hounds or Chihuahuas that have short hair.

Just as with humans, age is a big contributing factor to a dog becoming chilled in cold temperatures. Young puppies and older dogs are very susceptible to cold temperatures and can benefit from being bundled up in a warm coat, sweater or jacket.

Arthritic dogs tend to feel the cold faster than healthy dogs. Warm attire can help protect a dog's joints that are stiff and tender from arthritis.

Dogs that live in a warm climate and are taken to a colder climate will have a more difficult time trying to acclimate to the colder temperatures. It is like taking a person who lives in Florida and relocating them to Maine when temperatures are below zero and the wind is howling. The person from balmy Florida is going to become colder faster than someone used to the frigid northeast weather.

Thin dogs are often more susceptible to cold temperatures than are dogs that have a

### Featured:

PapHaven Classifieds.....	2
PHR Calendars selling FAST.....	3
Westminster Games are approaching.....	3
Secret Life of Pets.....	4
Pet Obesity.....	6

Watch for the February 2013 issue of *The Way Home* for Auction Results and up-to-date details about the Westminster Games.

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## Knitz 4 Dogz

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<http://myplace.frontier.com/~knitz4dogz/>

The Way Home  
Issue 78 -- January 2013

[www.paphaven.org](http://www.paphaven.org)

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As of 12-31-12 (total rescues) 1,200

For 2012 175 adopted out

*The Way Home* is a monthly e-publication for members/supporters of Papillon Haven rescue (PapHaven). Masthead photos taken by *Animal Photography.com* (used with permission); unless otherwise designated.

#### Newsletter deadlines:

Materials and color photos for the next issue must be submitted by the 15th of the month prior to publication. Send materials to: [nora3paps@yahoo.com](mailto:nora3paps@yahoo.com).

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# Westminster Games are approaching

Instead of a boring raffle number, wouldn't you like a list of potential winners – a group of dog breeds. That the premise behind the PHR Westminster Games. You purchase a grouping of five dog breeds. If one of the breeds you hold wins a Group One, you will be entered into a drawing to receive a Group One level prize. If your breed takes Best in Show (BIS) you will be entered into a drawing with the other BIS winners for the Grand Prize. The number of players holding Group and BIS winners depends on the number of entries sold.

Entries from all 50 states and several foreign countries have helped to give the 137th Annual Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, held in New York City on Feb. 11-12, 2013, its largest entry pool in 15 years – 2,721 dogs – as America's Dog Show extends its standing as the second-longest continuously-held sporting event in this country.

There are entries in all of the 187 breeds and varieties eligible for this year's show. Golden Retrievers lead the way with 61, fol-

lowed by Labrador Retrievers (54), Rhodesian Ridgebacks (50), French Bulldogs (46), Australian Shepherds (43) and Chinese Cresteds (40). There are 73 total entries in three varieties of Dachshunds. Five breeds have single entries: Plott, Anatolian Shepherd Dog, Kuvasz, Norwegian Lundehund and Entlebucher Mountain Dog.

## Watch and WIN!!!

As you watch, check your breeds and see if you may be one of the winners! This game is great as it gives us an inspiration to learn about and cheer for different breeds. The great thing about Westminster is that it can be very unpredictable, which adds to the excitement. This year, there are 2 new breeds added by AKC and will be in the Westminster Dog Show.

The live evening competition will be televised each night from 8-11 p.m. ET. Monday's telecast of the Non-Sporting, Toy, Hound, and Herding Groups will be on CNBC. Tuesday's telecast will be on USA Network and will include the Sporting,



Working and Terrier Groups, as well as Best In Show. Westminster, televised since 1948, is and always has been America's most widely-watched live telecast of a dog show.

## OK... Ready to Play?

Here's what to do:

Each Group of 5 breeds is randomly selected by computer and assigned in the order that entries are received to be absolutely impartial. **No, you cannot pick your own group of breeds.** Visit [http://www.paphaven.info/westminster\\_2013\\_start.html?r=20130015104205](http://www.paphaven.info/westminster_2013_start.html?r=20130015104205) to get further details and to see the great prizes!

Each group of 5 breeds are \$10 or 15 breeds for \$25. Email [PapHavenRescue@yahoo.com](mailto:PapHavenRescue@yahoo.com) with your donation amount – then send your check to:

PHR Westminster Games  
PO Box 20306  
Hot Springs, AR 71903

## ABSOLUTELY No PayPal transactions for this game.

A PHR designee will mail you your confirmation along with the breeds you are assigned. Then, just watch the show!!!! If you are a lucky winner, the postage to mail your prize, is included!! Your donations are what makes it possible for us to help Papillons in need find their own Forever Home!

### \*\*Please note!\*\*

This Fundraiser is open to persons in the continental US only. A purchase of one or more blocks is considered a commitment to donate that amount. This Fundraiser begins at 8 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 2, 2012 and closes at midnight the evening before the Show (Monday, Feb. 13 at 11 midnight CST).

## Did you order your Papillon Calendar yet?

Papillon Haven Rescue's 2013 Calendars are going FAST! So get your orders in soonest. The beautiful cover art was donated by We have a beautiful cover donated by ZD Kripke of California. Each page features PapHaven rescued dogs – both past and present

Cost is \$24 each. The Calendar price includes shipping & handling for each calendar. Bulk orders will have shipping & delivery determined at the time of order.

Thank you for helping our rescued Papillons.

Please, make sure you fillout the form at <http://papauction.info/calendar/>. This is used as your shipping label.

### Send checks to:

PapHaven  
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Hot Springs AR 71903



# The Secret Life of Pets: What Goes On Inside Their Heads?

Randal Ford/Corbis; Jill Greenberg – Wednesday, July 11, 2012 12:43 PM – <http://www.parade.com/health/2012/07/08-the-secret-life-of-pets.html>

**Editor's note:** There were several questions about cats that were deleted; and subsequently the paragraphs re-numbered.

You love them, you feed them, you welcome them into your homes and even your beds. But no matter how much you share with your dog, he can't tell you why he just spent 20 minutes settling on a place to pee. And your cat is never going to attach a note to the dead mouse she just left on your doorstep. That's why PARADE rounded up some experts (human ones!) to help clear up pet owners' top head-scratchers.

## 1. Why do dogs drool (and why do some dogs drool more than others)?

If your pup's friendly welcome leaves your clothes looking like they've been attacked by a giant slug, you can probably thank his genes: Certain breeds' lips just leak more than others. Notorious droolers like Newfoundlands, bloodhounds, and basset hounds have loose jowls and lots of skin around their mouths where saliva can accumulate, making it far too easy for them to share their slobber. As for the reasons for drooling, dogs are like humans: Their mouths release saliva in the presence of food, or when they're anxious or excited. This behavior is perfectly normal, but if your dog begins to slobber more than usual, or if the saliva smells bad, you may want to swing by the vet: A wound in the mouth (from, say, a splinter), a dental infection, or even poisoning might be behind it.

## 2. Why do dogs chase their tails?

"Sometimes, it's just a sign that the dog is craving interaction and playtime," says Warren Eckstein, an animal behaviorist and therapist and host of the syndicated radio program *The Pet Show*. If that's the case, you might put a stop to it by distracting your dog with another activity, like fetching a ball or tugging a rope. But if "tail-chasing" – or biting – becomes a ritual (say, before going outside or getting fed), or if it becomes excessive (the dog works itself into a frenzy), it could signal an obsessive-compulsive

disorder that requires help from an animal behaviorist or a vet.

## 3. Are dogs color-blind?

Dogs do see color but, much like color-blind humans, they have difficulty distinguishing between certain hues. Humans have three types of cones (the cells in the eye that recognize color); dogs have only two. As a result, they see fewer colors than we do, and these colors are less rich. (Cats also have only two types of cones, and they see colors even less vividly than dogs.) "The common form of color blindness in people is red-green color blindness, and that's really what dogs have, too," says Jay Neitz, Ph.D., a professor of ophthalmology and a color vision researcher at the University of Washington in Seattle. For dogs, the rainbow is reduced to two colors, "blue at one end and yellow at the other, with colorless bands where pure red and pure green would be." But don't feel too sorry for your pup: What dogs lack in color-perceiving cones they make up for in an abundance of rods, the cells in the eye that aid night vision. They are also exceptionally good at spotting movement, which is why your dog is aware of every squirrel in your yard even when he's got all four paws inside.

## 4. Why do dogs sniff around so much before deciding where to pee?

"Before there was Facebook, there were telephone poles," jokes Stephen Zawistowski, Ph.D., science adviser for the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. Canines' highly acute sense of smell enables them to gather all sorts of information from the scents of other dogs' urine, including which dogs passed by, how long ago they visited, even whether they were male

or female. "It's like a news feed; your dog is just taking his time to read everything that happened before he got there," Zawistowski explains.

## 5. Do pets have a sense of time?

Animals, like humans, have internal body clocks that are sensitive to the time of day. They also can accurately measure intervals between events; if a rat receives a reward for sticking its head in a feeder one minute after hearing a tone, it will start poking its head in more frequently as the 60-second mark approaches. "The more controversial question is whether they have a sense of time that extends well into the past and into the future," says Bill Roberts, Ph.D., professor emeritus of psychology at

Western University in Ontario.

For years, experts assumed that animals were stuck in the here and now, but Roberts, who studies animal cognition, says that recent research shows that pets may possess at least a limited mental timeline. In one of

the most famous studies, researchers from the University of Cambridge and UC Davis allowed scrub jays to hide wax worms and peanuts in different locations and then "permitted" the

birds to retrieve the treats either four hours or five days later. The birds prefer worms, so it was no surprise that after the four-hour delay, the jays sought them out before the peanuts. But worms don't last as long as "peanuts, and so after five days – at which point the worms were well past their expiration date – the jays sought out the peanuts before the worms." This suggested that the jays had a sense of when the food had been cached.



(Continued on pg. 5)

## Secret Life of Pets

(continued from pg. 4)

### 6. Why do dogs pant? (And what about cats?)

Panting is a way for dogs to cool off. (It can also be a sign of excitement.) Both cats and dogs have sweat glands on the pads of their paws, but these aren't enough to effectively cool their entire bodies. Panting, which brings quick gusts of air over dogs' moist tongues, is much more effective. Overheated cats will pant, too – they're just less likely to spend a scorching afternoon chasing squirrels.

### 7. Are onions and chocolate really poisonous to pets?

Yes – but for different reasons, and to varying degrees, says veterinarian Ahna Brutlag, assistant director of veterinary services at the Pet Poison Helpline. Chocolate contains a chemical called theobromine, related to caffeine, that dogs and cats can't metabolize as well as humans can. If they ingest too much of the chemical, the result is similar to what might happen if you took a handful of caffeine pills: agitation, pacing, and panting. In worst-case scenarios, it can lead to cardiac arrhythmias, seizures, or even death. The darker the chocolate, the more theobromine it contains and the more poisonous it will be; just two to three ounces of baking chocolate can be toxic to a 50-pound dog. Theobromine is also toxic to cats, but for some reason – maybe because they lack taste receptors for sweetness – they tend to have less of an appetite for chocolate than dogs do. Onions, along with garlic, leeks, and chives, contain chemicals called propyl disulfides and thiosulfates, which damage pets' red blood cells. It doesn't matter whether the vegetables are fresh, frozen, cooked, or freeze-dried: In high enough doses, they can cause the walls of the red blood cells to weaken and break down; in the most serious cases, a blood transfusion is needed. Cats are more vulnerable to these chemicals than dogs; a little more than a tablespoon of raw onions will poison a 10-pound cat. The most telltale symptom is intense lethargy, which can begin anywhere from a day to three days after ingestion. (To learn more about what human foods are toxic to pets – like raisins

and grapes for dogs – visit [petpoisonhelpline.com](http://petpoisonhelpline.com).)

### 8. Is there such a thing as a hypoallergenic pet?

In a word, no. That's because allergies aren't triggered by fur, as is commonly believed, but by dander – a general term for protein materials, present in animals' skin, urine, and saliva, that cause immune responses in people who are sensitive to them. A low-shed breed like the Obamas' Portuguese water dog may leave less dander-covered fur lying around, but – no offense to Bo – it's allergenic all the same. Still, some simple steps can reduce dander in your home. The most important one: Keep your pet out of your bedroom. “The animal should have its own sleeping space, with a mat that is washable,”

says Angel Waldron, spokesperson for the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America. She also suggests covering any ventilation grates in the pet's room with a piece of cheese cloth or gauze. “Dander is so light that once it gets airborne, it can travel easily from room to room through your ventilation system.” Next, clean rugs and carpets weekly using an asthma- and allergy-friendly vacuum cleaner with a HEPA filter, and dust hard surfaces with special dander-trapping wipes or a damp cloth. Wash linens frequently in hot water (over 130 degrees) and avoid heavy curtains, which are magnets for allergens. “You'll never entirely rid your house of dander,” says Waldron. “But at least you can minimize your exposure.”

## Does Your Dog Need a Coat?

(Continued from pg. 1)

lot of body fat.

Since seeing is believing, watch how your dog reacts to the cold outdoors. If he or she shivers or shows signs of distress, the dog could very well be cold and may benefit from a warm coat.

Climate will have a definite effect on the type of coat you choose for Rover. A dog living in a rainy area will benefit from having a coat that is waterproof or resistant. Buying a Florida dog a raincoat may be a waste of money; buying a raincoat for a dog that lives in a Washington rain forest might be a must.

In addition, dogs that live in areas that are extremely windy can benefit from coats made from wind-blocking fabrics.

Once you decide that your dog would benefit from a coat or sweater, decide whether you want to order one online or go shopping to a local pet store. The selection may be better online. However, being able to try a coat on a dog can help you select the best fit for your furry, four-legged canine friend.

Buyers must be aware that many stores – local and online – will not accept coats covered with dog hair for returns. Thus, it is very important that you select the right size. You won't have a chance for trial and error

unless you intend to spend a lot of money.

When choosing a coat online or from a local store when you do not have your dog with you, be sure to have accurate measurements of the dog's body. Doggie coat manufacturers differ in what measurements they require for proper fitting. Some will ask you to measure from the head to the base of the tail. Some may want you to measure around the dog's stomach area. Others may base their coats on the size of the widest part of the dog's chest. Some may ask for collar size. Whatever you do, take the time to get accurate measurements so that you are assured the coat you order will fit Rover.

And you may want to consider a pair of matching boots if your dog has tender feet or spends any amount of time outdoors in the snow and ice.

Remember, the main purpose of the item of clothing is to keep the dog warm. Warmth should come before fashion. The purpose is to protect the dog against hypothermia. It is not to win a fashion show. The point is to make it easier on the dog's body. Keeping a dog warm will help him or her stay healthy because their bodies do not have to work as hard to generate more heat to maintain the proper body temperature.

# Obesity & Pets: A National Epidemic

October 10, 2012 by Tails Magazine ; <http://www.tailsinc.com/2012/10/obesity-and-pets-a-national-epidemic/>

*As we approach the holiday season, it is time to discuss a topic that most people feel is “taboo” – Obesity and weight loss!*

Unfortunately for us all, this problem is not solely a topic for our human audience.

It's no secret that we've got a pet obesity problem running rampant: The fifth annual veterinary survey by the Association for Pet Obesity Prevention (APOP) found that 54% of our nation's pets are overweight. More specifically: 53 percent of adult dogs and 55 percent of cats were classified as overweight or obese by their veterinarian when the data was collected in October 2011.

This is scary stuff, and it gets scarier. “The most distressing finding in this year's study was the fact that more pet [parents] are unaware their pet is overweight.” comments APOP founder Dr. Ernie Ward. “22 percent of dog [parents] and 15 percent of cat [parents] characterized their pet as normal weight when it was actually overweight or obese. This is what I refer to as the “fat pet gap” or the normalization of obesity by pet parents. In simplest terms, we've made fat pets the new normal.”

## The APOP further described the findings of the study:

Perhaps even worse was the finding that the number of obese pets, those at least 30 percent above normal weight or a body condition score (BCS) of 5, continues to grow despite 93.4 percent of surveyed pet [parents] identifying pet obesity as a serious problem. The study found 21.4 percent of all dogs were obese in 2011. That's up from 20.6 percent of dogs were found to be obese. “What this tells us is that more and more of our pets are entering into the highest danger zone for weight-related disorders.” says Ward.

Some of the common weight-related conditions in pets include osteoarthritis, type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure, breathing problems, kidney disease, and shortened life expectancy. Orthopedic surgeon, APOP Board member and Director of Clinical Research at the University of Georgia College

of Veterinary Medicine Dr. Steve Budsberg states that “The prevention of obesity needs to be at the forefront of all discussions people have about the health of their pet with their veterinarian. The body of evidence that shows the negative impact of obesity on all the body's systems is overwhelming. As an orthopedic surgeon I see, on a daily basis, the effects of obesity on dogs and cats with osteoarthritis. It is very frustrating to see how much pain and discomfort excess weight has on my patients. Vets and owners have the ability to stop obesity in our pets. No animal goes to the refrigerator or pantry and helps themselves. We enable our pets to get fat!”

Ward agrees. “Pet obesity is plainly a people problem, not a pet problem. The most important decision pet [parents] make each day regarding their pet's health is what they choose to feed it.”

Endocrinologist and fellow APOP Board member Dr. Mark Peterson agrees. “Obesity in pets is not just the accumulation of large amounts of adipose tissue, but it is associated with important metabolic and hormonal changes in the body. For example, heavy or obese cats are up to four times more likely to develop diabetes as a complication of their obesity. Losing weight can lead to reversal of the diabetic state in some of these obese cats.”

Treats continue to be a major contributor to weight gain in pets. An online poll conducted in October 2011 by APOP of 210 pet parents found 93 percent of all pet caregivers gave treats – 95 percent gave a commercial treat with 26 percent reporting they gave their pet treats three or more times a day. “Treats are silent saboteurs of slimming down.” remarks Ward. “Those tiny treats are often hiding a significant amount of calories.” Ward suggests giving fresh vegetables such as baby carrots, string beans, broccoli or other vegetables or single-ingredient rewards.

Veterinary nutritionist and internal medicine specialist Dr. Joe Bartges from the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine and APOP Board member notes

that weight gain in pets can be prevented. “Prevention of obesity is much easier than treating it. The major obstacle is to convince pet parents what “overweight” and “obese” means and what it looks like. Veterinary health teams must educate the owner and work with them to prevent and treat obesity in their four-legged family members.”

## Survey Notes

A survey was conducted at 41 US veterinary clinics and evaluated 459 dogs and 177 cats in October 2011. Vets and vet techs evaluated each pet to assess current weight, medical conditions, caregiver assessment of weight and body condition score. Over the five years studied, these results have proven to be consistent and increasing at a gradual pace.

## Additional Survey Highlights

- According to APOP's survey results based on pet statistics from the American Pet Products Association, the following are estimated numbers of overweight/obese pets in 2011.
  - 41.1 million dogs classified as overweight or obese
    - 53% adult dogs classified as overweight or obese
    - 24.4 million dogs or 31.2% reported as overweight
    - 16.7 million dogs or 21.4% reported obese
- Only 8% of dog parents classified their pet as obese in the online study. That's less than half the actual figures determined by survey veterinarians. “The fact that few pet [parents] admit their pet is obese leads to a lack of interest in helping their pet lose weight. They know it's a problem, just not for their pet. Unfortunately, the data doesn't agree. Chances are their pet is overweight if not obese.” Dr. Ward
- 16.8% of pet parents reported they purchased their pet food at a veterinary clinic, 61.1% at a pet store and 22.2% at a grocery store.
- 76% of surveyed pet parents reported they learned about pet nutrition from their veterinarian, 71.5% from the internet, 22% from a pet store, 5.5% from a breeder, and 2.0% from a groomer. (multiple sources of information were allowed)
- When it came to deciding which pet food to feed, 69.4% trusted their veterinarian, 36.3% a website, 20.6% a pet store, 4.4% a breeder, and 1.3% their groomer.
- According to Dr. Ernie Ward, a 95-lb. male Golden retriever is comparable to a 5'4" human female weighing 184 lbs. or a 5'9" male that weighs 214 lbs..
- A 10-pound Chihuahua is comparable to a 5'9" male that weighs 282 lbs. or 5'4" human female weighing 242 lbs..
- Premium pig ear (231 kcals) fed to a 40-lb. dog is equivalent to an adult human drinking six 12-oz. Coke Classics™ (840 kcals).
- A typical dog biscuit (25 to 27 kcals) fed to a 20-lb. dog is the equivalent of an average adult human eating two Keebler EL Fudge Double Stuffed Sandwich Cookies (180 kcals).
- More weight and treat calculators can be found at [www.PetObesityPrevention.org](http://www.PetObesityPrevention.org)