

# Tips for the Greyhound Owner

These helpful tips and suggestions have been given by GPA members. Hopefully you will find some very useful information in this booklet.

**Welcome to the world of Greyhounds!!**

*GPA-MN does not promote any products mentioned nor stand behind any methods used.*



Compiled by Susan Spiller  
Edited 1/15/2010



## Feeding Tips

- Adding a heaping tablespoon of plain yogurt to one of their meals a day is good for their digestion and it may help cut down on any gas problem.
- One of our members recommends Canidae  
Since feeding her hound Canidae her hair has grown back on her butt, hips, neck and chest.
- She also cooks for her hound on occasion, making a mixture of 40% meat (liver and ground turkey) and 60% veggies and grain (frozen mixed veggies--never corn or onion), and brown rice or oatmeal - she makes a big batch and freezes meal-size portions.
- Food analysis Link - [www.dogfoodanalysis.com](http://www.dogfoodanalysis.com)

### Eating Too Fast

- Put a ball in their food dish- they will have to push that ball around to get to the food
- Feed in bundt or angel food cake pan
- Spread food on a cookie sheet
- Feed in increments – a little at a time



### Picky Eaters

- A good dog food for picky eaters – Solid Gold – Wolf King
- Good additives for picky eaters: Ensure, peanut butter, baby food with chicken or turkey, pumpkin puree.

### Vomiting

- Some Greyhounds vomit when they are extra hungry early in the morning– give them a treat when you first get up or try giving them 2 Pepto Bismo tablets just before bed
- Find the combination of dog food for your hound that works.
- Give your hound a couple spoons of wet (canned) food when you first get up.
- Switch to diets without grains – Cancer feeds on carbs – so low carbs and more protein - try Innova EVO or Orijen dog food
- Add a tablespoon of plain yogurt to their food
- Slowing down the hound when he eats by feeding smaller portions more frequently
- Science Diet Sensitive Stomach
- Before starting the new food – give a bland diet for a week to clean their system – scrambled eggs, potato and rice – 2 cup 2 times per day – then start the new diet.
- We recommend discussing diet change with your vet

### Intestinal Problems See your Vet

- With weight loss – try peeled, boiled white potato and ground, cooked turkey 2-3 cups 4 times a day
- May want to try IVD Venison dry food. You can get IVD products at the Village Animal Hospital (Intersection of Hwy 7 and 101)
- Colostrum and probiotics are useful for GI issues – health food store

### Raw Diet

- Sojos Complete – just mix with water
- Use a probiotic product anytime a diet change is made or the dog has a sensitive stomach.
- Woody's Pet Food Deli in SW Mpls [www.woodyspetdeli.com](http://www.woodyspetdeli.com)
- Raw Feeding Co-op in the twin cities
- Dogs on a raw diet have a more normal intestinal flora
- Dr. Cara White works at Whole Health Veterinary 763-785-2700 – she is a holistic vet – will do consultations on raw and or home prepared diets.

### Vitamins

- A good multi-vitamin supplement is Canine Whole Body Support by Standard Process or Canine Plus by VetriScience
- Do not trust cheap vitamins
- Dogs may need added Calcium – egg shells, bone meal, or raw bones.
- Glucosamine plus Chondroitin – 500mg glucosamine to 400mg Chondroitin

## Outdoor Habits

### Runny Stools – diarrhea

- Give smaller portions of food and also a sprinkle of Prozyme on the food
- Withhold food for a day and then serve boiled hamburger and rice or potato or pasta (25% hamburger/75% rice, or pasta or baked potato
- Sensitive Stomach food – Science Diet
- Metamucil – half a teaspoon in the am food and half a teaspoon in the pm food – one day only
- Try adding cooked pumpkin or boiled white potato to their food
- Chicken with rice and oatmeal kibbles is less rich and easier on their digestion
- Adding a probiotic to the diet – at least a billion CFU's(colony forming units) given once a day
- Science Diet Lite
- Taste of the Wild dog food – grain free.
- Check for Giardia
- Metronidazole (SP?) has been used for diarrhea in dogs with cancer. 2-3 days and the diarrhea is gone. Turns the stool black. If not cured in 3 days off to the vet.
- Holistic transition on the food when you are changing diets
- Pepto caplets (not the chewable ) a couple caplets every 3 hours or so.
- Holistic Select Dog food (Duck in the green bag) – grain free
- Beyond Grain dog food – Chuck and Don's - Grain and gluten free

### Poopsicle Eaters

- First of all – try to keep the poop picked up as best as you can
- Solid Gold sells a dog food SEP (stop eating poop) that may work
- Muzzle your hound when outside making sure the muzzle has duck tape on all the openings that would allow him to get to the poop (Or there is a heavy, white plastic “Stool Guard” that fits in the muzzle. [www.halemar.com](http://www.halemar.com))
- There is a medication called “anti coprosphasic” - if they continue to eat poop while on this medication it can make them very sick – use with caution
- May also be a health issue – digestive, absorption or parasites – see your vet
- Eating poop – unless the poop is infested with parasites – will not hurt your hound – just rather disgusting not to mention the breath

### Eating Grass/Purging

- Usually dogs eat grass if their tummy is upset or something may be missing from their diet - try feeding them (in moderation) one of the following: spinach, green beans, carrots, tomatoes, peas, banana, pumpkin, garlic (in moderation as it can be toxic), or ginger.

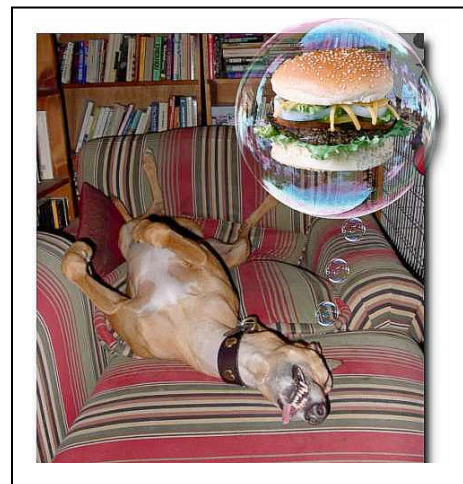
**Do not let your hound have a lot of exercise (running) right before or after eating – this can cause Bloat.**

## Eating Bad Things

**POISON CONTROL** 1-800-213-6680 – there is a \$35.00 fee for using the service

### Emergency clinics –

- Golden Valley Animal Hospital (Evenings and Weekends) 763-529-6560
- Eden Prairie Clinic 952-942-8272
- Coon Rapids Clinic 763-754-9434
- U of MN Veterinary Medical Center Saint Paul 612-626-8387
- Blaine Area Pet Hospital 763-754-5000



### **To Induce Vomiting**

Check with your Vet or Poison control first for dosage - fill a turkey baster with Vet recommended amount of hydrogen peroxide and force it down the hound's throat. Within 15 minutes he should throw up what he ate. (Dose is usually 1 oz (30cc) per 20lb of dog - check with your Vet or Poison control first. Keep an unopened bottle of Hydrogen Peroxide on hand; old product may not be as effective. Advise that you take your hound outside.

### **If Your Hound Eats Something with Sharp Edges**

Call your Vet immediately – In an emergency take 4-6 cotton balls (not the synthetic kind – the real cotton ones) and soak them in half-and-half. Feed them to your hound and within 36 hours or so, he should vomit up the cotton balls with the sharp pieces encased in the cotton balls. Remember that if a chemical or non edible item can cause damage while being swallowed, it can also cause damage when being vomited back up. The cotton balls encasing the sharp object alleviated the coming back up problem.

## **Body Parts**

### **Greyhound Teeth**

Because of the Greyhounds diet at the race track, you will find that they are very susceptible to plaque build up and subsequent problems with their teeth and gums. Brushing your hound's teeth will help maintain healthy teeth and gums.

- PetzLife comes highly recommended by many greyhound owners and will take care of any plaque build up problem and in most cases eliminate the need for dentals on your hound.
  - Petzlife can be purchased from a supplier in Brooklyn Park – Lori Rhodes [rhodesupnorth@msn.com](mailto:rhodesupnorth@msn.com)  
You can order online [www.petzlife.com](http://www.petzlife.com)
- Greenies and CET Chews – available at Pet Stores
- Raw carrots, and frozen broccoli are great for their teeth
- A homemade toothpaste can be made by mixing 50% salt (fine, like popcorn salt) and 50% baking soda - add a little water to make a paste and brush
- If you neglect their teeth, the infection that may result will take over their gums and then begin to affect their other organs.

### **Cracked Foot Pads**

- Aloe from the plant
- Utter balm or Bag balm
- Therapaws - booties
- Bleeding foot pads – try packing with flour
- Lanolin – in Baby department or Breastfeeding ointment
- Don't rely too heavily on these products as you want your hound's pads to get conditioned to the elements
- Stop the bleeding of a clipped too short toenail – use "Quick Stop" or pack with flour
- "Mushers Secret" is a good moisturizer for the pads in the winter so they don't crack

### **Dry Skin on Your Hound**

- May be a sign of allergies
- Use a humidifier
- Do not use plastic food or water bowls
- May have to switch food – slowly
- Aloe lotion may sooth the skin
- Doc's Blend "Hair of the Dog" - It is a fish oil flax combination
- Derm Caps – contain oils and vitamins – given on a daily basis
- Daily brushing with a soft bristle brush produces gentle stimulation which assists in stimulating natural oil production - gentle brushing and not prolonged



### **Dandruff on your Hound**

- A teaspoon of fish oil, olive oil, salmon oil or cod liver oil or flax seed oil, or Canola oil in their food once a day
- Message their body with Alpha Keri Oil – can get this at Walgreens
- Groom your hound with a soft brush daily
- Put a TBS of ground flax seed in their meal once a day – in the organic section of Cub or Rainbow 1lb = \$2.50

### **Stop the Licking after a Spay or Neuter**

- Use your muzzle and duct tape the bottom openings or get a “stool guard” for your muzzle (see “popsicle eaters”)
- Put a pair of boy’s briefs on and fasten them snug with a safety pin
- Use a belly band – get an old towel and wrap it around their body just in front of their hind legs – secure with a safety pin
  - [http://www.estherspetportraits.com/belly\\_bands.htm](http://www.estherspetportraits.com/belly_bands.htm)
  - <http://www.cherkotts.com/bellybands.htm>
  - <http://www.bwdogcoats.com/no-pee-bands.html>



### **An Eye Expert for Your Hounds**

Dr. Connie Sillerude  
4708 Highway 55  
Golden Valley, MN  
(East of 100) 763-529-7591

### **Nails and Trimming**

- A nail grinder works much better than a clipper – Dremmel Tool with a sandpaper drum – Sears, Home Depot, Menards
- If they struggle – try lifting both diagonal legs - they have no balance
- May have to use a basket muzzle while trimming
- Give them a Benadryl about half an hour before clipping
- Sugar and flour work well for stopping any bleeding
- If you let the nails grow too long, it can cause all sorts of problems.
- Use the dremmel a couple of seconds on each nail as it heats up quickly.

### **Bloat**

Bloat or Gastric Dilatation Volvulus (GDV) is a threat to all dog breeds, but primarily occurs in large, deep-chested breeds. It is a filling and a twisting of the stomach and adjacent structures. Symptoms: dry heaves, an enlarged abdomen, drooling, general abdominal discomfort, evidenced by pacing and restlessness, an arched back, difficulty walking, stretching and looking at the belly. Quick action on the part of the owner often can help save the dog’s life. Some steps you can take to possibly reduce the risk of bloat include:

- Feed 2-3 times a day, preferably when someone can observe after-feeding behavior
- Discuss bloat with your Veterinarian and discuss emergency measures
- Make sure water is available at all times, but limit quantities, especially right after eating and exercising vigorously
- Dogs should avoid vigorous exercise, excitement, and stress one hour before and two hours after meals
- Make diet changes gradually over a period of 3-5 days
- Feed susceptible dogs individually and in a quiet location
- Pay special attention to the above procedures after animals return home from the hospital – post surgical bloat is a risk factor
- Dogs that survive bloat are at increased risk
- If your hound is prone to lying on his or her back after a meal, do what you can to discourage this adorable but risky habit, as abnormal positioning can occur

### **Nervous Nellie Hounds**

- If your hound starts to shake, pant and pace from loud noises (thunderstorms, fireworks) try giving them 2 – 3mg tablets of melatonin at least a half hour to an hour before the storm or fireworks (this doesn’t work on all hounds but it is worth a try) - you can buy melatonin at a drugstore or Target in the vitamin section
- If your hound is already shaking, the melatonin probably won’t work – then try one tablet of Benadryl (this dosage is for a 12 hour period)
- Desensitize your hound – give a treat with the scary sound to associate the scary thing with yummy stuff.
- Rescue Remedy – health food aisles and stores. 4 drops in his water, or in his mouth, or onto his head or under his chin. Repeat every 4 hours for 1-2 days
- Can try a “storm cape” you must follow the instructions.

### **Bald Areas on Your Hound**

- For some hounds, Melatonin gets the hair growing again
- Some who feed a raw/fresh diet do not experience bald areas
- Could be a thyroid problem
- They may “blow” their track coat after they have adjusted to home life.
- Rubbing Desetin on hairless areas sometimes promotes hair growth

## Fleas

### If Your Hound Has Fleas

- Vacuum daily – under and behind everything as fleas like to hide in dark places
- After you vacuum, empty the vacuum bag and throw it outside in the trash – eggs can hatch in the bag
- Throw any bedding the hound may have laid on, in the dryer on high heat daily
- Take the lint out of the trap and throw it outside in the trash
- A flea comb is a great tool to check to see if your hound has fleas – comb them outside as the fleas jump off really fast
- To see if you have fleas in your carpet – put on white socks and scuffle your feet through the carpet - you will see little black specks jumping up on your socks if you still have them
- “Adams Flea Mist” – spray on your carpets and hound beds etc. – Do NOT use Zodiac
- Some owners use a monthly flea and tick product on their hound
- Flea and Tick shampoos and sprays that are safe are those with Pyrethrins as the main ingredient
- Do NOT flea dip your hound
- Do not use any flea/tick products which contain organophosphates – i.e.: carbaryl
- Never use a flea collar on a Greyhound - some of the chemicals found in flea collars can cause nausea, convulsions and death
- The least toxic form of insecticide that is considered safe for Greyhounds is a pyrethrin based formula which is derived from the Chrysanthemum flower
- If the product says it is safe for puppies and kittens that usually means it will be safe for a Greyhound.
- Frontline Plus

## Pet Allergies

### If You Have Pet Allergies

- Don't let pets in your bedroom
- Eliminate carpet
- Do an annual duct work cleaning
- Change filters regularly
- Use nasal wash or nasal saline for your nose
- Wash your hands after playing with your pet
- Feed your pet a well balanced diet which includes some fat (natural fat) to reduce skin dryness
- If you have carpet – steam clean it several times a year. Wash walls and baseboards
- Use Hepa room air cleaners
- Place a screen of cheesecloth over vents to keep dander from circulating.
- Wash and brush your pet outside your house and don't use a drying shampoo.
- Wash pet's bedding and toys
- “Allerpet-D” to rub on your hound
- Dander wipes [www.natlallergy.com](http://www.natlallergy.com)
- 3M makes Ultra Allergen furnace filters – Home Depot or [www.snipurl.com](http://www.snipurl.com)



## Hound Wearables

### Hound Coat Sources:

- Voyager Coats - [www.k9apparel.com](http://www.k9apparel.com)
- Chillydogs - [www.chillydogs.ca](http://www.chillydogs.ca)
- “Dog Days” sells some Chillydog coats – they are at 1752 Grand Ave. St. Paul 651-696-1817
- Chrysanthemums makes a nice variety of coats for all seasons [www.greyhoundcoats.com](http://www.greyhoundcoats.com)
- Handmade summer cooler jacket – Shauna More, PO Box 895, Winnebago, MN 507-893-3646
- Coat Patterns – <http://gpa-mn.org/volunteer.php#3> or <http://snipurl.com/u3glm> or a Kwik Sew Pattern

### Rubber Soled Boots for Your Hounds

- In extreme winter conditions of cold, snow and ice – it may be necessary for your hound to wear boots on your walks. They will probably resist at first and hop around like a rabbit.
- Places to purchase your hound's boots:
  - PetCo

- [www.muttluks.com](http://www.muttluks.com)
- [www.neo-paws.com](http://www.neo-paws.com)
- [www.therapaw.net](http://www.therapaw.net)
- [www.k9apparel.com](http://www.k9apparel.com) (see “booties”)
- Dog E Designs [www.dogedesigns.com](http://www.dogedesigns.com)
- Fido Fleece – Petsmart, Chuck & Don’s
- Paw Tectors - Petco

### **Rolled Leather Collars**

- [www.dresslersdog.com/collars](http://www.dresslersdog.com/collars)
- [www.dog-training.com](http://www.dog-training.com)
- [www.pawprintzpetboutique.com](http://www.pawprintzpetboutique.com)

### **Harnesses**

- [www.cooldogtogs.com](http://www.cooldogtogs.com)
- [www.fordogtrainer.com](http://www.fordogtrainer.com)
- [www.gentleleader.com](http://www.gentleleader.com)
- Fleet Farm – padding under the arms
- Premier sells 2 harnesses – Sure Fit and Easy Walk [www.premier.com](http://www.premier.com)



## **Accidents in the House**

### **Cleaning Hound Accidents**

- Oxy Carpet – a 3M product
- Alcohol and Dawn dish detergent
- Nature’s Miracle and then use Capture for the odor
- Atmosclear for pet odors
- Oxyclean and other oxygen bleach based cleaners work well on urine stains. Get 2 cups of really hot water and add 1 TBS of Oxy Bleach – add slowly or it will foam over – let it dissolve until it is clear, then pour it on the stain. You will need a steam cleaner to suck up the liquid. Rinse with hot water and suck it up with the steam cleaner.
- “Capture” on urine stains – Capture is a white powder. There is a pre-spray – use this first on the stain, then you put the Capture on the stain and kind of scrub it in with a scrub brush. It seems to suck the yellow stain right up. You may have to do it a few times.
- Loose stool and diarrhea – lift up as much as possible, taking care not to spread it. Then using an inexpensive 5 gallon wet/dry vacuum, fill a small watering can with hot water from the tap and pour over the stain and then vacuum it up. Pour hot water on the stain and vacuum it up....a few times until the stain is gone. Then saturate the area with Nature’s Miracle and forget about it.
- “Nature’s Miracle” – shake the bottle before applying - needs time to work – it has little enzymes in it that get deep down into the carpet and eat up the offending bacteria. Pour it over the stain and leave it for a week or so before cleaning it up with anything else. Make sure you pour on enough to soak into the carpet pad too.

### **Cleaning Machines**

- Dyson Vacuum – animal
- Bissell “Little Green Machine” – Compact and convenient – comes with or without heat.
- Spot Bot

### **Recommended Types of Flooring for Hounds**

- Laminate
- Textured Tile
- Throw rugs with rubber backing so they do not slide
- Marmoleum

## **Traveling**

### **Travel Tips and Places to Stay with Your Hound**

- [www.dogfriendly.com](http://www.dogfriendly.com)



## Doggie Day Care

- Animal Humane Society
- Downtown Dogs - Right by Int'l Market Square. Dogs can run around 612-374-DOGS
- All Seasons Canine Country Club - also overnight – in Corcoran
- Kathleen Lomauro – overnight and day care [caninecoterie@comcast.net](mailto:caninecoterie@comcast.net)
- [www.happydaysdoggiecamp.com](http://www.happydaysdoggiecamp.com)
- Canine Club and Spa – Chanhassen area – have a doggie cam

## Recommended Boarding Kennels

- All Season's Country Club in Corcoran <http://www.allseasonsccc.com/index.htm>
- Animal Inn Boarding Kennels & Suites, Lake Elmo 651-777-0255 [www.animalinnboardingkennel.com](http://www.animalinnboardingkennel.com)
- Animal Wellness Center in Maple Grove 763 420-7958 [www.animalwellnessmg.com](http://www.animalwellnessmg.com)
- Auntie Ruth's Furry Friends Home Away From Home, Hopkins 952-936-9000  
[www.auntieruth.com](http://www.auntieruth.com)
- Bloomington Veterinary Hospital, Bloomington 952-884-3228 [www.bloomingtonvet.com](http://www.bloomingtonvet.com)
- Brooklyn Park Pet Hospital, Brooklyn Park 763-566-6000 [www.bppethospital.com](http://www.bppethospital.com)
- Dog Break, Sandy Jammer, Coon Rapids 612-201-5567 [sjammer@msn.com](mailto:sjammer@msn.com) [www.jammersdogbreak.com](http://www.jammersdogbreak.com)
- Country Kennels, St. Mayer 952-657-2575
- Happy Days Doggie Camp, Rockford 763-477-9999 [www.happydaysdoggiecamp.com](http://www.happydaysdoggiecamp.com)
- Kolstad's K-9 Acres, Minnetonka 952-934-3884
- Krismyth Kennels, Hutchinson 320-234-7812
- Maplewood Pet Care Clinic, Maplewood 651-770-8373
- Pet Boarding by Brandi, Hastings 612-382-4234 [www.petboardingbybrandi.com](http://www.petboardingbybrandi.com)
- Stone Mountain Lodge, Blaine 763-792-8929 [www.stonemountainpetlodge.com](http://www.stonemountainpetlodge.com)
- Waggin' Tail Ranch, Elk River 763-241-3883
- Kay's Affordable Pet Care – Plymouth 651-216-4711 [kayvbortnem@msn.com](mailto:kayvbortnem@msn.com)  
[www.kaysaffordablepetcare.com](http://www.kaysaffordablepetcare.com)
- Linda Nation will stay in your home – reasonable rates – 612-825-5391 [nation825@yahoo.com](mailto:nation825@yahoo.com)
- Now Boarding Pets [www.nowboardingpets.com](http://www.nowboardingpets.com)
- Cheryl Nystrom - Former RN – In her home care. 763-476-8850
- Julie Whaley – will stay in your home Ramsey, St. Paul 651-276-8006

## Miscellaneous

### Obedience Training

- **Alpha Academy** – New Brighton 651-636-0523
- **Twin Cities Obedience Training Club**  
2101 NE Broadway St.  
Minneapolis, MN 612-379-1332  
[www.tcotc.com](http://www.tcotc.com)
- **Big D's Dog Training** [gotadog1@gmail.com](mailto:gotadog1@gmail.com) [dogs4homes@aol.com](mailto:dogs4homes@aol.com) 651-398-5766
- **Bark Busters Home Dog Training**  
In home, customized dog training with a life of the dog guarantee. We train all breeds, any age, and any problem-including puppies.  
[www.barkbusters.com](http://www.barkbusters.com) Click on Fetch a Trainer to contact us or call 877-500-BARK
- **Animal Humane Society** – behavioral support - <http://www.animalhumanesociety.org/training/helpline>
- **U of MN** <http://cvm.umn.edu/vmc/aboutvmc/smallanimalspecialties/abs/index.htm>
- **Katie K-9** [www.ktk9.com](http://www.ktk9.com)



### If Asked About Greyhound Racing

- A good response is "I'm more interested in their future than their past. Are you or do you know anyone who is interested in adopting a retired greyhound? What would you like to know about these wonderful animals?"

### Brown Spots on Your Lawn

- Spread lime and gypsum to neutralize
- Give them a couple TBS of tomato juice in their food a day.

## **Dog-friendly Landscaping for Your Yard**

- Fran Kiesling “Dirty Dog Landscaping”  
612-722-7596

## **Carts for Hounds**

- [www.k9carts.com](http://www.k9carts.com)
- [www.eddieswheels.com](http://www.eddieswheels.com)
- [www.handicappedpets.com](http://www.handicappedpets.com)

## **Link to dog food analysis**

- <http://www.dogfoodanalysis.com/>

## **Supplies**

- Heated and un-heated beds - <http://cozywinters.com/pets/>

## **Rawhides**

- Make sure they are made in the US
- May want to cut them in pieces if the hound tries to consume too much at once.
- If a dog swallows too large a piece causing an obstruction (not hungry and having difficulty pooping – give 1-2 ounces of mineral oil on his food – helps to lubricate the GI tract so it passes.
- CET Hextra – good for the teeth too.
- Chewies – Macho Sticks or Bully Sticks [www.royalhounds.org](http://www.royalhounds.org) or [www.viriniagreghounds.org](http://www.viriniagreghounds.org)

## **Raw Bones**

- Large beef bones from the grocery and bake them in the oven 350 degrees for half an hour to get rid of the marrow fat, then let them cool. Too much fat can cause diarrhea or pancreatitis.

## **Night Vision**

- LED head lamps (intended for human use) can slip over hounds head and wear around the neck – humans can wear them too. Found at Dick’s, Gander Mountain or at Menard’s they are \$10 each
- Reflective tape on coats and booties
- Flashing bicycle lights to clip on collar.

## **Cancer Information**

- Dr. Couto at OSU is a top specialist in greyhound cancer <http://vet.osu.edu/1872.htm>
- Greyt Health has good information [www.greythealth.com](http://www.greythealth.com)
- Low carbs seem to be important when it comes to beating the cancer monster

## **10 Top Pet Poisons**

- Human medications (pain killers, pain meds, antidepressants, dietary supplements) Keep them out of reach
- Insecticides – flea and tick products – talk to your vet first
- People food (grapes, raisins, avocado, chocolate and products containing xylitol – like gum can disable our hounds.
- Plants – azalea, rhododendron, sago palm, lilies, kalanchoe and schefflera
- Veterinary Medications – When misapplied or improperly dispensed.
- Rodenticides - Accidentally ingesting rat and mouse poisons
- Household Cleaners – bleach, detergent, disinfectants
- Heavy Metals – Lead, zinc and mercury in paint chips, linoleum and lead dust produced in older homes when sanded or scraped
- Garden Products – Certain fertilizers and garden products can cause problems for outdoor dogs.
- Chemical Hazards – Antifreeze, paint thinner, drain cleaners and pool/spa chemicals
- Poison control 24 hour hotline 1-888-426-4435



## **Fun Stuff**

### **Links to Find out Your Greyhound’s Racing Information**

- [www.greyhound-data.com](http://www.greyhound-data.com) In the search box – type in your hound’s racing name. It will show his pedigree, littermates, and his races.
- [www.rosnet2000.com](http://www.rosnet2000.com) You can access a very thorough race career for your hound. Some of the lingo is complex so there is another site that has a decoder: [www.rmga.org/decoderpage](http://www.rmga.org/decoderpage)

- If your hound has recently retired, you may be able to get video footage of his winning races –usually for a small fee – just contact the latest track he/she was at.

### **A Photo Stamp of Your Hound**

- [www.photostamps.com](http://www.photostamps.com) You can send them a photo of your hound and they will put it on a usable stamp.
- **Greyhound Origami** [http://www.geocities.com/tp\\_kong/greyhound.html](http://www.geocities.com/tp_kong/greyhound.html)

### **Holiday Tips**

- Don't forget to spend quality time with the fur-family – sometimes we get so caught up in the activities, that we don't take time for long walks and play sessions with our buddies – which are an excellent de-stressor.
- Try to keep your pet's world consistent.
- Keep electrical cords and Christmas tree lights away from your hounds – one chomp is all it'll take. You can run cords thru PVC pipe, cover with rugs or put behind heavy furniture.
- Decorate the lower branches of your Christmas tree with things that don't mind being broken, swallowed or pawed
- If you have a chewer, coat new wires (like the ones for the Christmas tree lights) in bitter apple or another chew deterrent.
- If you are having guests over, try to leave a room available as a "quiet room" for the hounds to escape to – especially if there are a lot of noisy children.
- Put an exercise pen around the tree as a measure to keep really determined dogs out and the tree and goodies in.
- Anchor your Christmas tree to the ceiling or wall behind it.
- When ingested by a dog, tinsel and angel hair can cause obstruction of the intestines, and the tinsel's sharp edges can even cut the intestines.
- Ivy, holly, mistletoe and poinsettias range from mildly upsetting to extremely toxic. If eaten they can cause gastrointestinal irritation, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, drooling, coma, central nervous system or cardiac problems or even death.
- If you have a live Christmas tree, keep the water stand covered so your hound can't drink the water – Tree sap mixed with water makes a poisonous drink for your hound.



### **Cold Weather Tips**

- Be very careful where and how you store your Anti-Freeze. If ingested by your pet, it can be lethal – even in small quantities. This is a serious medical emergency and should be treated by your veterinarian immediately.
- Hypothermia – when a dog's internal temperature drops below 96 degrees F (by being exposed to cold weather for long periods, or getting both wet and cold), there is a serious risk to the dog's safety. Any sign that a dog is very cold – such as shivering – should be a signal to bring the dog inside.
- Ice melting chemicals and salt placed across sidewalks and roads can cause severe burning to your dog's footpads, Wash the footpads upon returning home.
- Be cautious of fireplaces including ashes and popping wood. These can cause bronchial irritation, burns, skin irritation and digestive distress.

### **Hot Summer Tips**

- If you have not been walking your hound regularly through the winter months, start with short walks a couple times a day. Slowly work toward your walking goal. Sun and longer days means more time spent outdoors playing and lounging. Avoiding the sun and heat of the day between 10am and 4pm is best. Dogs don't sweat the way humans do and are susceptible to heat stroke (and sunburn) which often times comes on quickly. Be sure to have plenty of fresh water available and rest often in the shade.
- Never leave your dog unattended during the peak sun hours of the day.
- Never leave your dog unattended in a closed vehicle.
- All Greyhounds will and can sunburn. White dogs with their pinker skin are usually more prone to sunburn. Use sun block if your Greyhound has to be out in the sun for any length of time.
- Get your Greyhound a 12" deep children's pool for them to cool off in.
- Take your walks at cooler times of the day.
- Make sure all plants and fertilizers within the hound's reach are non-toxic.

- Asphalt and hot concrete can burn your hound's pads. – Be aware.
- There are mats, coats and scarves that can be used to help cool hounds.

## Emergency, & Alternative Vets

### EMERGENCY VETS

#### **Golden Valley Clinic**

4708 Hwy 55  
Golden Valley, MN 763-529-6560

#### **U of MN Veterinary Medical Center**

1365 Gortner Ave.  
St. Paul, MN 612-626-VETS(8387)

#### **Coon Rapids Clinic**

1615 Coon Rapids Blvd NW  
Coon Rapids, MN 763-754-9434

#### **Eden Prairie Clinic**

7717 Flying Cloud Dr.  
Eden Prairie, MN 952-942-8272



**These veterinarians work with GPA-MN to provide care for all of our incoming hounds. They provide a service and a discount without which it would be very difficult to function.**

#### **Brooklyn Park Pet Hospital**

5815 80<sup>th</sup> Ave. North  
Brooklyn Park, MN  
Phone: 763-566-6000

#### **Maplewood Pet Care Clinic**

2811 White Bear Ave  
Maplewood, MN 55109  
Phone: 651-770-8373  
Dr. Kathy Marr

#### **Chanhassen Veterinary Clinic**

440 West 79<sup>th</sup> St.  
Chanhassen, MN 55317  
Phone: 952-934-8862

#### **Blaine Area Pet Hospital**

11844 Aberdeen St. NE  
Blaine, MN 55449  
Phone: 763-754-2131  
After Hours Emergency: 763-754-5000

#### **Cottage Grove Animal Hospital**

8136 E. Point Douglas Road  
Cottage Grove, MN 55016  
Phone: 651-768-0200  
Dr. Mike Thrasher



### Alternative Medicine

- All Creatures Acupuncture – Heather Evens, DVM  
612-243-0260 Acupuncture/Chiropractic
- Minnetonka Animal Hospital -Leilani Hotaling, DVM  
952-473-1239 Acupuncture, Chinese herbs,  
952-473-1240 Chiropractic, Muscle testing
- Lake Harriet Vet – Jim & Cathy Sinning, DVM  
612-822-1545 - Acupuncture & Chinese Herbs
- Plymouth Heights Pet Hosp. –Pierce Fleming, DVM -0763-544-4141 – New Hope – Acupuncture & Chiropractic
- Rivertown Animal Hosp. –Mary Arneson, DVM – 651-430-2229 – Acupuncture and Chiropractic

- Grand Ave. Vet Center – Nancy Balto, DVM – 651-224-3038 – Acupuncture
- Michelle Bame – Minnetrista [mbame@mchsi.com](mailto:mbame@mchsi.com)  
Consults on Wellness, gives massage, does an entire work up on your dog, with regards to nutrition, exercise, etc.
- Interlachen Center – Ralph & Blake Johnson, DVM – 952-442-4421 – Waconia – Acupuncture & Western Herbs
- Cleary Lake Equine/Small Animal Center- Kathy Ott, DVM – 952-435-8387 – Acupuncture
- Cat Care Clinic – Susan Swanson, DVM – 651-429-4153 – Acupuncture, Chinese and Western herbs
- Univ. of MN – Dr Choi – 612-626-8387 Lin Gelbmann – 612-363-3841 Acupuncture and Herbs
- Central Bird and Animal Hosp. – Dr. Andrews – 763-785-2700 – Chiropractic & Acupuncture
- TCARC – Dr. Julie Thomlinson – 612-760-2229 – Burnsville – Rehab and Pain relief
- Skadron Animal Hosp. Dr. Teri Skadron – 651-451-6421 – West St. Paul
- K-9 Rehab & Fitness Center – Dr. Garren Kelly & Katie Bruesewitz, CCRP – 507-775-6720 – Byron, MN
- Affiliated Emergency Vet Service – Dr. Louis Beyea – Duluth, MN
- Valley View Vet Hosp. – Dr. Joel Enochs – 715-483-1551 – St Croix Valley –Acupuncture & herbs

