Our Summer 2021 News!

Summer Fun in 2021!

We are in the midst of a busy summer at NTBHR! Intakes have increased - both due to owner surrenders and basset hounds in area shelters. If you have ever considered fostering, now is the time to help us by fostering a basset hound until it finds a forever home. NTBHR covers all medical and training costs for our fosters. We have many experienced fosters who can support you with tips and tricks to help a new dog join your family. Please consider completing a foster application here: <u>foster information</u>



Wilma finds a favorite chair. Looks like the perfect place for a nap!



Buster joined his forever family in May, 2021! Happy tails, Buster!



Walter found a sunny spot with a perfect place to rest his chin. Basset ears can be heavy!

The Basset Shuffle Returns!

Mark your calendars now for the 2021 Basset Hound Shuffle! The Shuffle will be held the morning of **October 30,2021**. If you've never attended the Shuffle, you won't want to miss it! Games, raffle, silent auction, and lots and lots of basset hounds promise to create a day full of fun and excitement for all! Location and times to be determined and shared soon!





Plan to join us for the Basset Hound Games at the 2021 Shuffle!



Making new friends and catching up with old ones at the 2019 Shuffle.

Start preparing now for the 2021 Costume Contest!

Thank you for your support!

Thank you for supporting us in the 2021 Bone Soiree Auction! This virtual only event was highly successful, raising over \$15,000 for our rescue! Each and every dollar raised goes to the care of basset hounds in our care.





Jules finds a comfy spot for a nap on top of her toy box.





Bailey and Berkeley wish you a happy, safe summer!

Foster Scotty was exhausted from chewing his toy box.



Bosley's Barks -n- Bits

Expert Basset Hound, Bosley, answers our readers' tough questions.

Q. Hi Bosley, I love playing outside year round. But, I'm worried about those pesky flying insects making me sick. Can you tell me more about what I should watch out for and how my humans can protect me? Signed, Itchy Ears and Belly

A. Oh, Itchy! I can relate! Here is some information from "Pet Talk," published by Texas A & M University:

AVOIDING HEARTWORMS & OTHER MOSQUITO-BORNE DISEASES

Fleas and ticks are not the only parasites that can cause problems for our dogs, cats, and other pets. Mosquitos are the number one vector of diseases and pathogens worldwide, but preventative medicine can make a big impact in reducing infection.

With summer swiftly approaching, and with it, an increase in mosquitos, <u>Dr. Guilherme Verocai</u>, a clinical assistant professor in the <u>Department of Veterinary Pathobiology</u> and director of the Parasitology Diagnostic Laboratory at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, has advice for combatting the most common mosquito-borne diseases, including heartworms, the most significant parasite of dogs in the U.S.

Heartworms are most frequently found in dogs, but they can also infect cats, ferrets, and even wild canids like coyotes.

"Adult worms live in the heart and pulmonary arteries," Verocai said. "The larval worms, also known as microfilariae, are found in the bloodstream and are picked up by mosquitoes during a blood meal. The larvae will develop inside the mosquito and pass to another dog during a subsequent blood meal."

The symptoms of heartworms include coughing and abnormal lung sounds, followed by heart, lung, liver, or kidney damage.

Verocai said early treatment is vital for heartworms, but the best option is to use preventative medications to stop infection before it occurs.

The American Heartworm Society recommends testing annually for heartworm antigens and microfilariae in addition to keeping pets on preventative products all 12 months of the year. These products kill heartworm larvae once they enter the pet's body and may also work against gastrointestinal worms, fleas, ticks, and mites.

Verocai said topical products can be used as an additional measure to repel mosquitos, but these products only reduce the animal's chance of getting heartworms rather than eliminate the risk altogether.

"There are several topical products for dogs that contain repellents and insecticide drugs that have label claims against mosquitoes and are effective for up to a month," he said. "There are no labeled products to control mosquitos in cats that are effective for an entire month, but there are over-the-counter products that have repellency activity for shorter periods of time."

Besides spreading heartworms to pets, mosquitos can also transmit several viruses to other animal species and people, such as malaria, yellow fever, dengue, and Zika virus.

Various forms of encephalitis can also be spread to horses through mosquito bites, but vaccines are usually able to prevent infection. For horses, cows, and members of the deer family, mosquitos can transmit roundworms that live in the host's body but rarely cause disease.

Despite the many possibilities for harm, mosquito bites are usually no more than a nuisance to pets if preventative medicine is used year-round. For dogs and cats, these medications often help kill fleas and ticks as well, making it easy to prevent all three pests at once.

Q. Happy Summer, Bosley! I love spending time in the warm weather with my humans. But, every July, they celebrate with loud sounds and stinky smoke. What's a dog to do? --Sound Sensitive Sam

A. Hey Sam! Here are some tips I found at <u>https://www.seattledogspot.com/10-tips-to-keep-your-dog-safe-</u> <u>during-july-4th-fireworks/:</u>

10 Tips for Dogs and Fireworks 1. Exercise Your Dog Before the Fireworks Start! dogblog.finchester.org

Make time in your schedule to give your an extra long workout before the fireworks begin. Tired dogs are calmer and easier to keep quiet. They will also sleep more deeply, and consequently, will be less likely to be disturbed by the noise outside. Of course, if it's really hot outside, <u>take precautions to ensure your dog doesn't get overheated</u>. **2. Stay Home**. I understand that not everyone can stay at home on the 4th, but your dog's fear of fireworks can be exacerbated if you aren't there to provide reassurance that they are safe.

This is especially important if you have a a new dog in the house because you won't know how it reacts to fireworks. **3. Keep Calm.**

Your dog reacts to your nonverbal cues. If you jump or tense up when you hear fireworks because you are anticipating your dog's fear, you may make its fear worse.

4. Drown Out the Sound.

Turn up the stereo or television. and keep your windows closed during the fireworks.

Something that can provide background noise, like a fan or air conditioner can help as well.

5. Respect Your Dog's Fear.

Allow your dog to hide if it feels more comfortable in its crate or under a bed. Don't pull it out or try to force it closer to the fireworks in an attempt to get him used to the sounds.

Just let it stay where it's comfortable and provide reassurance that it's safe.

6. Provide a Distraction.

Break out your dog's favorite treats, play a game, or give it some extra cuddle time. You can occupy it for awhile by filling a KONG with peanut butter or another yummy treat and freezing it.

7. Try the Thundershirt.

I've never tried a <u>Thundershirt</u> on my dogs, but some people swear by them. The pressure it provides has a calming effect on the nervous system.

8. Just Say YES to Drugs.

Work with your vet before the holiday to see if medication might be the best option for your pooch. 9. Be Prepared.

Make sure your dog is wearing ID tags with its name, your name, and your phone number. Get your dog <u>microchipped</u> if it doesn't have one. Buy your dog a license – if it runs off and is picked up by animal control, they will call to let you know they have your dog. And you won't have to pay a big fine to get your dog back. You can also get <u>a digital ID tag from</u> Wenatchee-based PetHub.

10. Remove Visual Stimulation.

Keep your curtains closed or blinds. Removing visual stimulation can help calm dogs.

I hope you find these tips helpful.

Have a great holiday, and be sure to keep your dogs safe and calm!



Life imitates art!

Mittie Keefe's Zelda imitates a famous basset picture (left).

Charlie (right) thinks his ears would look even better in a Hallmark greeting than the pictured card.





Hey Basset lovers! Remember that you can support NTBHR while shopping on Amazon!

AmazonSmile

Log in to Amazon.com, go to settings, and select North Texas Basset Hound Rescue as your "Smile" recipient. To date, NTBHR has received over \$2000 from our supporters' shopping!

Kroger Community Rewards Program (#MP996) You can follow the link on our <u>homepage</u> or sign in to your Rewards account on <u>Kroger.com</u>. Select North Texas Basset Hound Rescue as your Community Rewards recipient.

Tom Thumb Good Neighbor Program (#6910)- Call Vicky Weiman/Good Neighbor Program Administrator at 888/334-8240 or stop at the customer service desk and fill out a form. Credits for NTBHR can take up to 10 business days to begin.



Important reminder!

Moving to a new home can include a "to-do" list that seems never ending. But, **please add one more item to the list: make sure to update the contact information attached to your dog's microchip.** And, let NTBHR know of the change as well since we are often contacted from red heart tags our rescues wear. Often, during a move to a new home, dogs can escape and become lost. Microchips help dogs re-join their homes in theses situations. But, only if the information from the chip is current when scanned by a vet or shelter.

Happy Tails to the hounds who have recently joined their forever families!



Stella, NTBHR basset #1781, has joined her forever family. She loves camping, snuggling, and exploring her yard.



Sherlock was recently adopted by the Perez family. He is settling in to his new home quite nicely!

Let us know your thoughts on this issue of the NTBHR newsletter! Make sure to follow us on social media! Feel free to email communications/bassetrescued/w.org with feedback, questions, or ideas.



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