



Next Training Class:

Basic Obedience: We teach you how to teach sit, stay, come, down, heel, go to your place, and leave it in a positive way!

Starts **Saturday Sept 18 at 12:30pm**

*Each class meets for 6 weeks in a row, the same day each week, for 1 to 1 and $\frac{1}{2}$ hours

*Classes will fill up, call the front desk today to sign up!

Doggie OCD

Obsessive Compulsive Disorder is a psychiatric disorder that occurs in dogs as well as humans. You've probably heard of people who can't stop washing their hands, or who check the lights a million times before they leave then drive home from work to check again. Obviously, no one wants to have OCD. It can be debilitating. Many people, however, don't know that dogs can have it, and mistakenly look at obsessive behavior as being 'cute.' Often they reward the behavior and make it worse.

Dogs who repetitively engage in a behavior out of context may be suffering from OCD. This means they are not performing the behavior in a playful happy way, but in a stressed and anxious way. Behaviors that have the potential to become obsessive compulsive disorders include biting at the water hose, tail chasing, paw licking, chasing laser lights, etc. You want to keep your dog from developing obsessive behaviors both to lessen their general anxiety, and to keep them safe. For example, many obsessive paw lickers do it until sores develop. Obsessive tennis ball chewers are at risk of swallowing pieces of ball.

To keep OCD from developing, keep an eye out for any repetitive actions from your dog that seem out of context. Intervene early if you suspect the beginnings of an OCD. Give your dog more exercise—both physical exercise and mental exercise such as hide and seek games or obedience training. This gives them somewhere to put all that energy. Figure out if you are reinforcing the behavior, and stop! Laughter, snuggles, and even yells to stop are all attention that may reinforce the way your dog is behaving. Try to find an incompatible behavior and reinforce that. For example, if your dog runs after it's tail whenever you come home, ask it to sit and go down instead---then reward that behavior.

If you have any training questions, please give one of our trainers a call!

Halloween Party

Fabulous fun Halloween Party

Thursday October 30 7pm-9pm

There will be refreshments and prizes for the best dog and human costumes!

Teeth Cleaning:

**Next Non-Anesthetic Cleaning
Tuesday October 28**

Sign up today!!

Field Trips

MORE FIELD TRIPS HAVE BEEN ADDED!!

Field trips are now every Wednesday at WagVille Runyon Canyon and Huntington Beach

**Oct 15: Runyon Canyon
Oct 22: Huntington Beach
Oct 29: Runyon Canyon
Nov 5: Huntington Beach**