



Naperville Area Humane Society's Pet Care & Safety Patch Program

Leader's Guide **Junior / Boy Scout Level Requirements**



Naperville Area Humane Society's Pet Care & Safety Patch Program Description

Naperville Area Humane Society's Pet Care & Safety Patch Program consists of three levels: Daisy, Brownie/Cub Scout, and Junior Girl Scout/Boy Scout. At each level, the scouts do a variety of age-appropriate activities to teach him or her about being responsible pet people. All activities are done during troop meetings or at home.

The last activity the troop will do is visit the Naperville Area Humane Society for a tour (please schedule at least a month in advance). To schedule a tour, the troop leader should contact Kristen at 630-420-8989x117 or kfunk@napervilleareahumanesociety.org. Tours require a \$25 donation and are offered weekdays during our off public hours. Patches will be issued only after all activities and the tour are completed, and the cost of the patches per scout is \$2.

In order for the scouts to earn the Pet Care & Safety Patch the following must occur:

- The scouts must complete all required activities before coming for the tour.
- The scouts must come to the tour prepared to talk and answer questions about the activities they did.

LEADERS - Please review the following with your troop before introducing the activities:

What is Naperville Area Humane Society?

The Naperville Area Humane Society is an animal shelter that cares for dogs and cats who don't have homes. Half of the animals are brought to us by their owners, and the other half come from Animal Care and Controls. *Who can think of a reason why someone might have to give up their pet?* The Naperville Area Humane Society takes good care of all the dogs and cats in their care and works very hard to find them new families to adopt them and give them a loving, life-long home.



Naperville Area Humane Society's Pet Care & Safety Patch

Juniors/Boy Scout Level

Juniors/Cub Scouts must complete the below activities listed below, as well as visit the Naperville Area Humane Society for a tour (please schedule at least one month in advance). Tours are offered weekdays during off public hours. Please contact Kristen, the Humane Education Manager, at 630-420-8989x117 kfunk@napervilleareahumanesociety.org to schedule a tour.

1. How do dogs and cats communicate or talk to us? They mostly use body language. That means you can tell how they are feeling by looking at the way their body is positioned. How do dogs and cats tell us when they are happy, sad, scared, angry, or sick? Complete the "Dog Talk" sheet on page 5 and see if you can guess what each dog is trying to say. What is it about the dog's body language that makes you think that? Observe your dog or cat and explain their body language. Check your answers with the key on page 6.
2. Most of the pets at the Naperville Area Humane Society lost their home because their family could no longer care for them. How do you think a dog or a cat feels when they lose their family and everything they have ever known? Talk about it with your troop. Try to put yourself in the animal's place. Go on the Naperville Area Humane Society's website and look at the photos of the adoptable pets. Choose one. As a troop, write a letter from that animal's point of view (have the troop leader write it, if necessary) to someone who might want to give the pet a good home. Tell the person why they should adopt this particular animal. Bring your letter with you when you come for the tour.
3. How much does it really cost to get a dog? The cost of a pet is only the beginning of the money you will spend caring for the pet. On page 7, determine how much it actually costs to get a dog. To find the prices, visit a local pet supply store, call a veterinarian, or search online.
4. Find out about how to keep your pet safe from heartworm disease on pages 8 and 9.

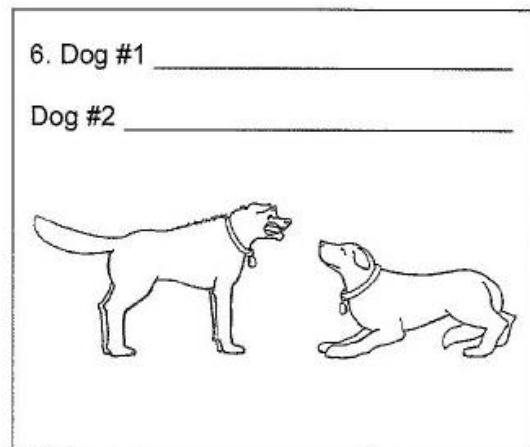
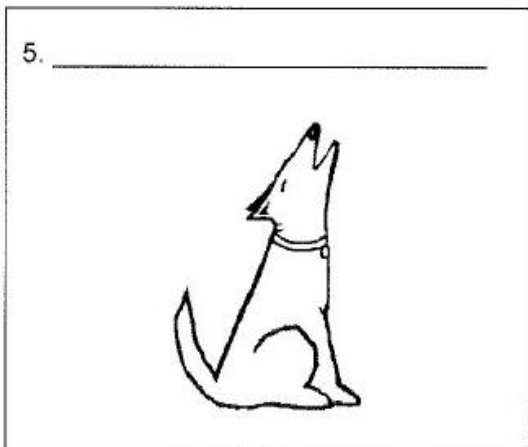
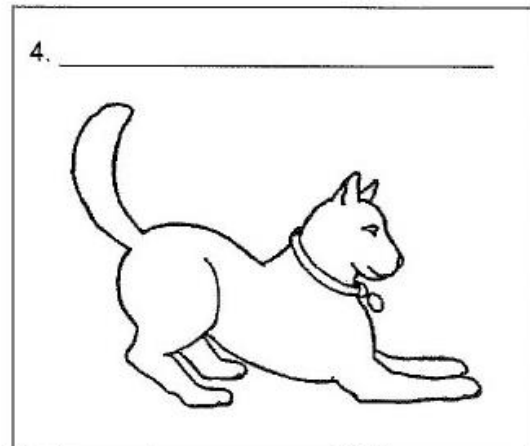
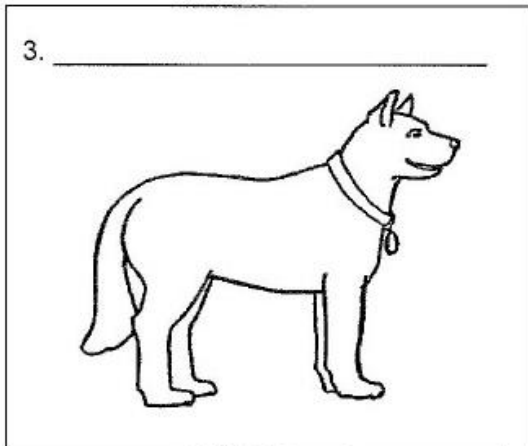
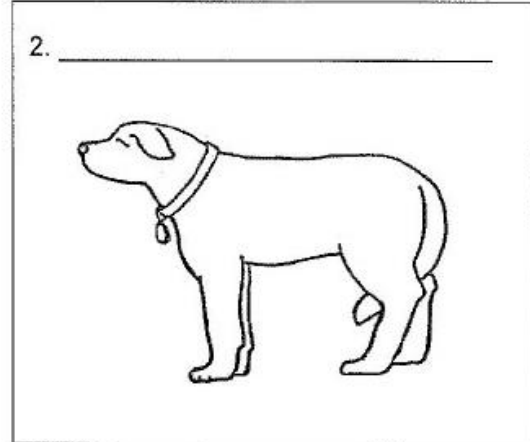
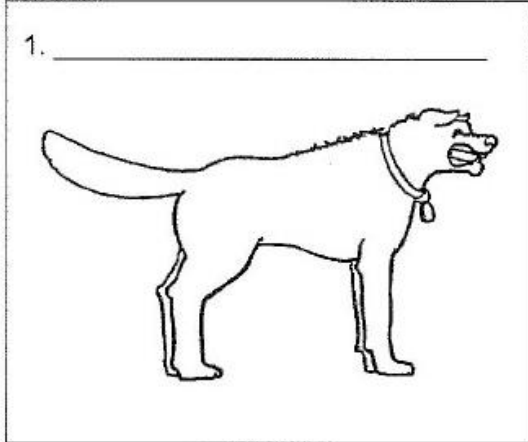


5. Is your pet a “good citizen”? See page 10 to learn about laws that pertain to pets. Why are these laws important? What if there were no such laws? Talk about them with your troop. Color the coloring sheet on page 11.

6. What is the difference between a domesticated animal and a wild animal? Are dogs and cats domesticated or wild? Read the information on page 12, and then design a poster and bring it along to your tour of the Naperville Area Humane Society to educate people about why they should never abandon a pet.

DOG TALK

What Are These Dogs Saying?



Dog Talk Answer Key (Activity #1)

1. I'm angry, so back away. My hair is standing up, my tail is up and my teeth are showing. I might be growling. Leave me alone!
2. I'm scared! My eyes are half-closed, my ears are back and my tail is between my legs. I might even crouch down on the floor and roll onto my back. I'm afraid, so please give me my space.
3. I'm a happy dog! My ears are up and my body is relaxed. My tail is up. I'm approachable!
4. Let's play! My rear end is up in the air and my tail is up and wagging. My paws are on the ground as if I'm bowing to you. My ears are forward and my face looks happy. Come on! Let's play!
5. I'm lonely! I'm all by myself and I want some company so I'm howling like a wolf to try and attract my family to come to me. If I am your dog, please spend more time with me!
6. Dog #1 – I am an angry dog! My hair is standing up, my tail is up and my teeth are showing. I might be growling. I am showing Dog #2 that I am the boss!
Dog #2 - I am REALLY scared! My ears are pinned back, my eyes are closed and my tail is between my legs. I am crouching down to show Dog #1 the HIS the boss of me!

How Much Does It Really Cost To Get A Dog?

The cost of a pet is only the beginning of the money you will spend caring for the pet. Determine how much it actually costs to get a dog. To find the prices, visit a local pet supply store, call a veterinarian, or search online.



Leash	\$ _____
Collar	\$ _____
I.D. tag	\$ _____
County license	\$ _____
Microchip I.D.	\$ _____
Training classes	\$ _____
Food and water bowls	\$ _____
Flea control	\$ _____
Brush	\$ _____
Heartworm disease preventative	\$ _____
Toys	\$ _____
Food	\$ _____
Deworming	\$ _____
Spay/neuter surgery	\$ _____
Vaccinations	\$ _____
Grooming	\$ _____
Check-up at the vet	\$ _____
Boarding	\$ _____
Bed	\$ _____
Crate for training	\$ _____
Total:	\$ _____

Pets can be expensive! It is important to carefully consider the true costs of getting a pet **BEFORE** you get one!

Did you know...when you adopt a dog or a cat from the Naperville Area Humane Society, the adoption fee includes the pet's up-to-date vaccinations, microchip I.D., and spay/neuter surgery! What a great deal!

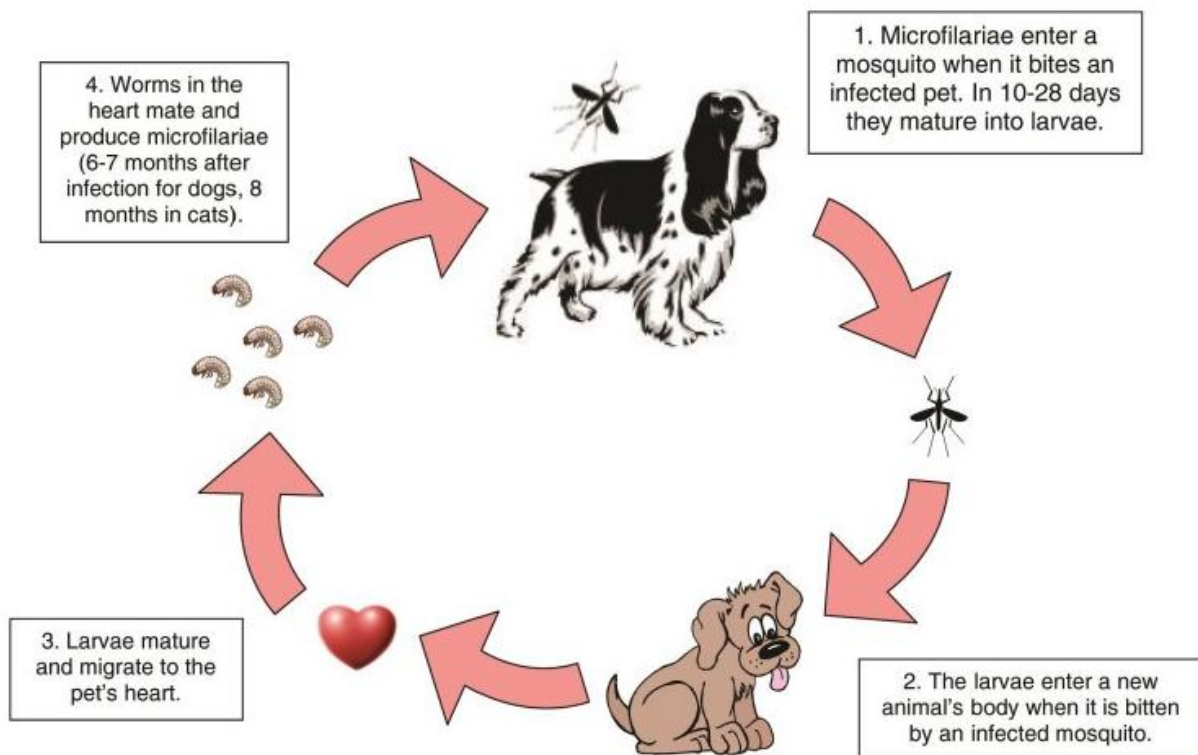
Beware of the Heartworm!

What is heartworm disease?

Heartworm disease is a condition in which worms enter a pet's circulatory system via a mosquito bite and invade the animal's heart. Each year, thousands of dogs become infected with heartworm disease and many of them die from it.

The treatment of the disease is very hard on the dog. Essentially, a veterinarian must poison the worms to kill them, but the dog is poisoned at the same time. The treatment is time-consuming and expensive. Luckily, it is a preventable disease.

A veterinarian can do a quick and simple blood test to determine if a pet is developing the disease. As long as the test is clear, the pet should start on a heartworm preventative.



“Beware of the Heartworm” Skit

Choose a person to play each of the parts: Pet Parent, Veterinarian, Vet Assistant, Mosquito, Dog, and Family.

Part 1 - “The Healthy Dog”

Pet Parent: I just adopted a dog and want to be sure he is healthy. I’m going to take him to the vet!

Veterinarian: I’m the vet! One thing we’re going to check Fido for is a disease called heartworm disease. It is a disease that is transmitted through mosquitoes. Mosquitoes are very common in the summertime, so you must protect your dog. Otherwise he could get very sick! Let’s take him over to the vet assistant who will check him out.

Vet Assistant: I’m the vet assistant. The way we check for heartworm disease is by taking a sample of blood from Fido and running a simple test. We will have the results in only a few minutes... The results are negative! Fido does not have heartworm disease. We had better get him on a preventative right away.

Part 2 - “The Unhealthy Dog”

Mosquito: I am a mosquito and I’m hungry for a nice fuzzy dog! Here poochie, poochie...Oh look! I’ve found a yummy dog – I think I’ll chomp on him! Wow, this dog has some extra treats in his blood, little baby worms called microfilariae. After two or three weeks...the baby worms have developed inside me into infective larvae. Cool! I’m hungry again...time to find another dog for dinner. While I’m feeding on his blood, I’ll dump some of these infected worms into his skin, that’ll take a load off. Good bye, doggie...

Dog: Good bye, doggie? You have made me sick! These larvae are migrating through my tissues and into my heart. I’m not feeling well at all...I’m feeling tired and I’m starting to cough all the time and I don’t feel much like eating. A few months have gone by and the worms inside my heart are up to 14 inches long! I wish my family would have taken me to the vet so this wouldn’t have happened. Here comes my family now...

Family: We’re Fido’s family and we haven’t been very responsible. It may be too late-our dog is very sick. We better take him to the vet!

Veterinarian: I’m the vet and I suspect your dog has heartworm disease. I’ll take a blood sample to test for the disease. In a few minutes my assistant will have the results. (A few minutes later...) The results are positive- your dog has heartworm disease. Since you waited so long your dog has severe damage to his heart and lungs. They cannot be repaired. We wish you would have come in earlier because if it had been caught earlier, we may have been able to treat the dog. The treatment is risky, though. This is why I urge pet lovers to have their pets on heartworm prevention. You could be saving your pet’s life!

Is Your Pet A “Good Citizen”?

Most communities have laws concerning pets. These laws are meant to maintain the health and safety of the people and animals in the community. As a troop, take turns reading the important information below and discuss the answers to the questions. The laws listed below are similar to those commonly found in communities throughout the U.S.

Leash law

Dogs are not allowed to run loose off their owner’s property. They must be kept indoors or in a fenced yard. If they are off of their owner’s property, they must be on a leash or in a carrier. Imagine if people were allowed to let their dogs run loose. Would it present a danger to people? In what way(s)? Would it present a danger to other animals? There is no leash law for cats. Do you think there should be? Why or why not?

“Pooper Scooper” law

People must immediately clean up their pet’s waste if their pet defecates (goes to the bathroom) on someone else’s property. Why is it important for people to clean up after their pets? What if no one ever did?

Rabies Vaccination Requirement

All dogs and cats that are four months and older must be vaccinated against rabies. Rabies is a serious disease that is contagious between animals and humans. It is extremely rare for a person to catch rabies from a dog or a cat, though, largely because rabies vaccines are required for dogs and cats throughout the U.S. and this has kept the disease under control. How has dogs and cats being vaccinated for rabies helped humans?

“License Law”

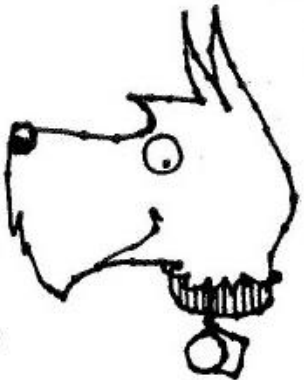
All dogs and cats that are four months and older must wear a license on their collar. The license is issued through the county where the pet lives. A license is also called a ‘tag’. The license is used to help identify a pet if he becomes lost or stolen. It is also used to keep track of which pets have received the required rabies vaccine. Also, counties use licensing to keep statistics on owned pets, which usually must be renewed yearly.

“Nuisance law”

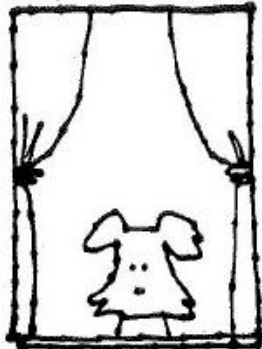
Pet owners must not allow their pets to bother or be a nuisance to other people. For example, it would be considered a nuisance for a person to allow their dog to bark all night, every night, in the yard. And, it would be a nuisance for a person to allow their cat to dig up plants in a neighbor’s garden each day. Do dogs and cats always know how we want them to behave? Whose responsibility is it to make sure that pets do not bother others?

IS YOUR DOG A GOOD CITIZEN?


DOES HE HAVE A CURRENT LICENSE AND I.D. TAG? DOES HE WEAR THEM?




IS HE KEPT IN A HOUSE OR YARD, OR ON A LEASH? LOOSE DOGS CAUSE PROBLEMS AND AREN'T SAFE.



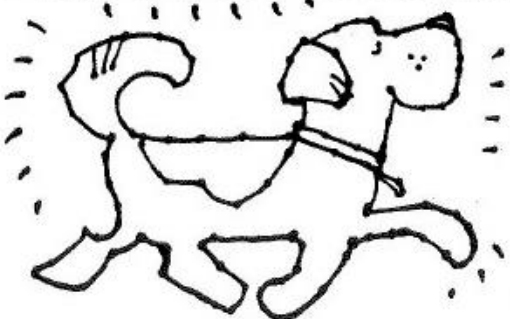
HAS HE BEEN TAUGHT NOT TO MAKE EXCESSIVE NOISE, LIKE BARKING WHEN LEFT ALONE?



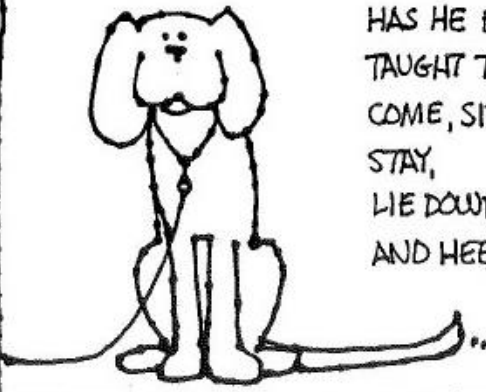
DO YOU PICK UP AFTER HIM WHEN HE GOES TO THE BATHROOM?



IS HE KEPT CLEAN AND HEALTHY?



HAS HE BEEN TAUGHT TO COME, SIT, STAY, LIE DOWN, AND HEEL?



Why Our Pets Depend On Us

Dogs and cats depend on humans in order to survive. Thousands of years ago, dogs and cats were wild animals. They had the instincts to hunt, find shelter and to fend for themselves against the dangers that they faced in the wild. But then humans realized how wonderful these creatures were and decided that they wanted to keep them around and take care of them. They gave the dogs and cats food, water, and shelter, and protected them from harm. After thousands of years of being cared by humans, dogs and cats forgot how to do these things for themselves! They are no longer wild animals. They are now what we call domesticated animals. That means that they depend on us to provide them with food, water, shelter, medical care, and grooming, and they need us to protect them from harm.

Domesticated Animals VS. Wild Animals

Dogs and cats that are forced to live on the streets live very short, sad lives. Since they have no one to feed them, they have no choice but to eat rotten food from garbage cans, which can make them very sick. Since they have no one to give them clean water, they are forced to drink dirty water from puddles on the street. Many of these animals die from starvation. While on the streets without humans to care for them, many dogs and cats get hit by cars or are attacked by other animals. Many of them will suffer from injuries and disease. Sometimes, cruel people will intentionally hurt animals they see roaming the streets. For this reason, it is very important that people do not abandon their pets on the street or anywhere else. Abandoning a dog or cat is such a bad idea that it is in fact against the law.

As a troop, design a poster to educate people about the dangers of abandoning pets. Bring it to the Naperville Area Humane Society when you visit for your tour!

Purchase Your Naperville Area Humane Society Pet Care & Safety Patches after your shelter tour!

Patches are available for \$2.00 each and can be purchased after the tour of our shelter.



Educational tours will review everything in this packet as well as give the kids a full "behind the scenes" tour of our animal shelter, which includes a discussion about NAHS and operations.

Tours are offered year round by appointment and are offered to groups totaling 15 or less. There is a \$25 donation required for each tour (a \$2 per person additional fee is for any tour over 15 people). Some groups also elect to do a service project and collect supplies for NAHS. Please see our wish list on the next page to learn more about the types of items needed.

WISH LIST

- Clay & Clumping Cat Litter
- 55-gallon Trash Bags
- Soft Dog Treats
- Gallon, quart, &/or sandwich size zip-lock baggies
- Rawhides (USA Made, Large)
- Dog/Puppy/Cat/Kitten Food (grain-free & fish-free)
- Painter's Tape
- Can Dog/Puppy/Cat/Kitten Food (grain-free & fish-free)
- KMR (Kitten Milk Replacer, powder or liquid)
- Ice Cream Cones (plain, not sugar or waffle)
- First Class and Postcard Postage
- Rolled Oats
- Disposable, surgeon-type rubber gloves (size large)
- Dog & Cat Toys
- Rolled Oats
- Painter's Tape
- Chicken Broth
- Paper Towels
- Dixie Cups
- Powdered Milk
- Honey
- Peanut Butter
- Wheat Germ
- Liquid Watercolors
- Dishwasher Soap (tabs/pods)
- Hand Sanitizer
- Liquid Hand Soap
- Acid-Free Watercolor Paper
- Acrylic Paint (non-toxic)
- Tempera Paint (non-toxic)
- Colored Sidewalk Chalk

Children's Books:

Donate a children's book from our book list to our Paws for Tales reading program which helps children struggling with reading skills.

Free Ways to Help Naperville Area Humane Society:

Aluminum can recycling: Drop off aluminum cans at the Naperville Area Humane Society in the open trailer behind the shelter.

Inkjet cartridges: Donate non-refurbished empty inkjet cartridges for NAHS to redeem for credit at area office supply stores.

Support NAHS While You Shop:

iGive.com: From our website, click "You Can Help," "Donating to NAHS," then "iGive.com". Register and select Naperville Area Humane Society as your charity of choice, and shop the more than 680 retail stores.

US Bones gives us 25% of your order's value if you select Naperville Humane Society from the drop-down box. Visit www.USBones.com to place an order for your pet supply needs.

ShelterCare Insurance will donate \$25 for each pet insurance policy purchased via the link on our website's homepage, www.NapervilleAreaHumaneSociety.org.