



BOSTON BAR
FIRST NATION

CANADIAN ANIMAL ASSISTANCE TEAM (CAAT)

67 pets received spay/neuter procedures and vaccinations during the veterinary clinic event put on by CAAT and the Boston Bar Community in 2024.

"It takes nothing away from a human to be kind to an animal."
— Joaquin Phoenix



PREGNANCY

TAKING CARE OF A MOTHER DOG AND HER PUPPIES

A dog's pregnancy is about 9 weeks long.

The demand on her body starts to increase at about 4 weeks along and continues until the puppies are weaned – so about 3 months of extra needs.

She needs extra nutrition or she will not do well even if the puppies thrive, her body will give everything to her pups.

It is important to keep pups with their mother until 8 weeks old. Taking them away to early will have an impact on their behaviour.

- One female dog can produce 1-2 litters per year.
- The average litter size is 4-6 puppies. If half are female, in five years one female dog and her offspring... and her offsprings etc. can produce hundreds of dogs.

WHAT A DIFFERENCE A SPAY CAN MAKE!

DOG HEAT CYCLES

- Dogs can start going into heat as young as 7 months old.
- Dogs heat cycle lasts around 7-21 days.
- Dogs can get pregnant during the time this heat cycle lasts.
- During her heat cycle she has a scent that males are strongly attracted to.
- Dogs come into heat (ready to breed) twice a year.
- **Signs that a heat cycle has started:** You might notice lightly blood-tinged fluid from her vulva and her vulva might appear slightly swollen. Increased urination is common. Frequent licking of her vulva area can also be a sign and males sniffing her more than usual.

KINDNESS SERIES

Dogs who have learned to trust their human family can bring unconditional love, humour, affection, & joy to us on a daily basis.

Let's make sure we give them the same!

DID YOU KNOW

Dogs need positive interaction with people right from when they are puppies to form a trusting relationship with humans.

KIDS SAFETY TIPS

- A lot of dogs do not like to be hugged, and it puts your face very close to their mouth. Instead give them a scratch under their chin or on their chest..
- Don't tease a dog that is tied up. They may not always be tied up and they won't be happy because you teased them.
- If a dog has a bone or food, they may feel protective so leave them alone.
- Some mother dogs may be protective of their puppies, don't touch or pick up the puppies
- If a dog is sleeping, especially an old dog that may not hear well, don't startle them, they might be frightened and bite.



LET'S PRACTICE "BE A TREE"

Be a Tree if your dog is...

- Scaring you or you don't know them

How To Be A Tree:

- Fold your branches,
- Watch your roots grow,
- Count in your head to the highest number you know over and over again until help comes or the dog goes away.



WINTER CARE TIPS

HOW COLD IS TOO COLD?

Some dogs are more tolerant due to coat type (double coated breeds) but they are still susceptible to cold if they get wet/damp.

An insulated dog house can make the difference between life and death in the winter months and gives shelter from rain and sun the rest of the year.

Please make sure your dog has what they need to survive through the winter months.

- Water (not frozen)
- Extra food if they are outside a lot.
- Shelter from the cold and wind.

Signs your dog is too cold outside:

- If your dog is shivering - just like us when we are cold.
- Your dog is holding up a paw or suddenly limping when they try to walk indicates their feet are getting cold/or balls of snow are stuck between their pads of feet.
- If you are not comfortable outside for long periods of time in the current weather, your dog likely isn't either. They need shelter from the wind and cold.

POISONS



- Antifreeze
- Chocolate
- Garlic and Onion
- Human Medications: Tylenol, Ibuprofen, Antidepressants, AD/ADHD Medications, Sleep Aids, Birth Control, Heart and Blood Pressure, and Thyroid Medications.

