

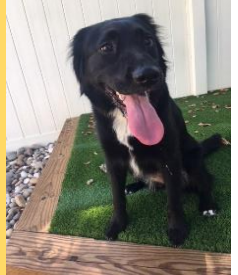
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# Chesapeake Dog Training

Connecting People and Dogs Through Training

# January 2019



## >>> Upcoming Events

**Jan 20 – Agility Group Class**

**10am @ CDT**

(3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month)

**Jan 27 – Pack Walk**

**9am @ Quiet Waters Park**

**Jan 27 – Board & Train Group Class**

**1pm @ CDT**

(last Sunday of every month)

**Feb 9 – Canine Good Citizen Prep Class**

**10am @ CDT**

(2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month)

**May 4 – Canine Good Citizen TEST**

**Time and location TBD**

## Seasonal Tips and Tidbits >>>

### Know Your Dog's Cold Tolerance

Dogs handle the cold and winter weather differently depending on breed, personality, overall health condition, and activity level. Proper management of your dog in extreme weather is the key to ensuring they stay safe and healthy.

**Things to consider for your dog's outdoor activity in the winter months are:**

**Activity Level** - Your dog's overall normal activity level as well as the specific activity at hand should be considered. Dogs that regularly stay active are more likely to keep moving and blood flowing even in cold temperatures. Durations for being outdoors should be adjusted accordingly depending on if your dog is sitting in the backyard, on a walk, or running around playing with other dogs.

**Breed** – Breeds that are long or thick haired and are from cooler regions are better equipped to wade through a winter wonderland, then those from warmer climates and having thinner coats.

**Specifics of the weather** - When planning outdoor activity, the temperature is not the only thing to consider. Wind chill, precipitation and cloud cover play a huge role in the “feels like” and comfort for your dog. For example, a day that is 30 degrees and full sun may be more suitable than a day that is 45 degrees with wind and dampness from light precipitation. Dogs are susceptible to frost bite on their extremities, which can be brought on by wind chill and moisture.

**Size** – Dogs that are smaller or shorter and closer to the ground may get cooler quicker, especially if there is any snow or ice on the ground.



**Age & Health Conditions** – Be mindful that extreme weather can have a greater impact on older dogs or those with health issues. Existing conditions such as arthritis or joint related issues can be exacerbated by the cold, and they may be more prone to slip on ice or snow. Other medical or age-related conditions may affect your dog's ability to regulate blood flow, thus body temperature, and you should consult your veterinary if you have any questions about your dog's limitations or tolerance.

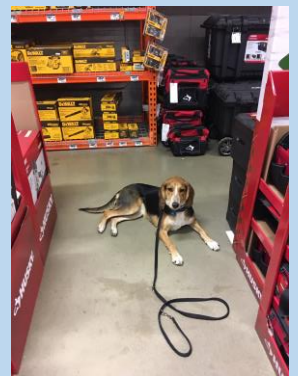


## Ariel becomes a part of her family's world

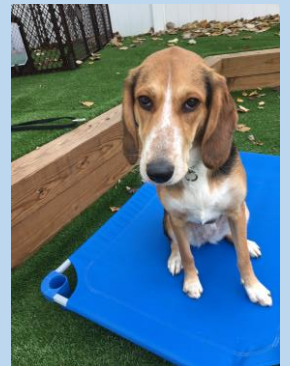
Ariel, a young hound mix was a hyperactive puppy who was simply not listening to her owners; landing her a Board & Train at CDT. She would jump on her owners, including a young child and mouth them often. Despite living in a more rural area and having room to run and get physical energy out, Ariel still never seemed to calm down mentally. Her family struggled to find ways to motivate her to listen and were initially hesitant to make the investment into training as they thought it was just her nature and personality, therefore would not change even with formal training. When the opportunity to go on vacation arose, they took the chance and signed up for a two-week Board & Train knowing they were going to have to board her somewhere anyway.

When Ariel first arrived at CDT, she was actually a very timid dog despite her noted exuberance at home. Ariel was initially hesitant to interact with other dogs and cautious in her approach and it was clear to CDT trainers that the socialization component to the B&T would be extremely beneficial for her. Her timid nature was also seen when on walks, as many 'normal' sights and sounds were very distracting for Ariel. With the introduction of a prong collar and learning 'Heel' Ariel's worry of the environment quickly melted away, thus redirecting her attention to us. Ariel continued to progress through the basic obedience training, socialization, and having a structured routine with ease. She literally went from having her tail tucked between her legs during her first social, to being extremely confident and developing the ability to be appropriate in play with a diverse group of dogs. It is hard for CDT trainers to think of Ariel not being the life of a dog party!

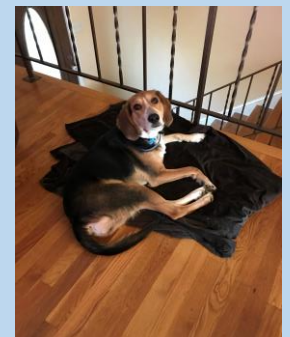
Her owners now say she is a completely different dog- in a good way! She comes when called, has good manners, and reliably practices the Place command for extended durations. Ariel's Board & Train allowed her to learn how to have an overall calmer state of mind. When a dog is able to alleviate any sort of "mental burden" they may feel from outside pressures (rational or not!) often the problem behaviors (jumping, mouthing etc.) are no longer an issue. Ariel's family has done a fantastic job of maintaining the learned behaviors and following through with the recommendations and equipment provided by CDT. Their follow-through and commitment to the provided training will help ensure long term results and success. Ariel has since attended a Group Class and is signed up to come back and board with us again, which continues to reinforce her training. We strongly encourage Board & Train's to continue to participate in our services and board with us, as it often serves a 'tune up' to what they have already learned. We are excited to have Ariel come back in the spring and will likely use her as a reliable and well-trained dog to help teach other dogs what to do!



(learning good manners out in public during her B&T)



(learning 'place' at CDT)

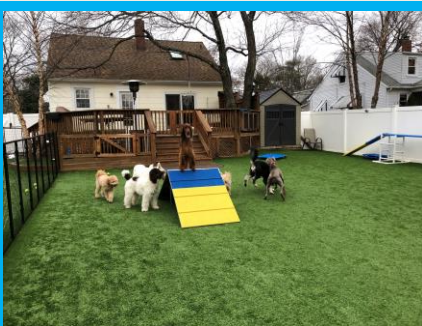


(Ariel practicing 'place' at home)

### Company News >>>

## Bring on the New Year!

### 2019 at CDT



CDT is really looking forward to a fantastic 2019! We have some exciting events and new services lined up. We really hope to offer more Group Classes and expand these services this year. In particular, we will be focusing on getting more students to take the Canine Good Citizen (CGC) Test and have set the goal of 20 students! We will be offering preparatory Group Classes on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month. We additionally will be continuing to offer Agility and Basic Obedience Group Classes, but on a more consistent basis. Despite previous announcements of discontinuing for the winter months, we have decided to still offer a few Group Classes in the next few months and will reschedule if the weather does not cooperate. In the Spring we will go full steam ahead with the classes! We are also now offering a Board and Train follow up Group Class that will be free for any graduate of the B&T program. This class will be held the last Sunday of every month and aims to continue to be a resource in maintaining the behaviors and equipment learned during the Board and Train.

We are excited to announce the arrival of some new Agility equipment! We will continue to teach agility recreationally and as a way to build confidence for dogs and handlers, but have some new equipment to incorporate. CDT is now offering an Agility Training "add-on" for boarding dogs in addition to the regular training add-on. We will do a 30-minute training session with your dog introducing them to the equipment and keeping them thinking! Please see the website for more info.

# Farewell to Tex!



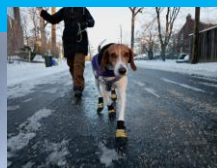
We are sad to say goodbye to one of our regulars, Tex, the basset hound. Tex and the Miner Family are moving to New Orleans for new adventures and opportunities. Tex has been a playgroup regular for the last two years and has helped many dogs develop their social skills. He has always been able to play with absolutely anyone from small to big dogs. His warm, welcoming and goofy presence has helped many shy and nervous dogs become braver, and anxious dogs to calm down and become more confident. There is never dull moment when Tex is around, as he always manages to get himself into the funniest situations. Recently, his curiosity and confidence led him to explore, learn, and master agility equipment all on his own! In addition to Tex's sweet nature, he has also received the Canine Good Citizen (CGC) certification by the American Kennel Association. The CGC certification exemplifies Tex's training and good manners, as well as highlights the pledge of responsible dog ownership by his family. There will certainly be a gap to fill in playgroup, but we are so excited for Tex to make new friends and spread his love down in The Big Easy! We wish Tex and the Miner Family best of luck and are so happy to have had the opportunity to meet them.



## \* Winter Reminder \*

If you need to apply ice melt to your walkways and streets, be mindful of the effects it can have on pets and the environment. All ice melts, including the the "Pet Safe" ones can be toxic to dogs and other animals. Most ice melt is "rock salt", thus primarily sodium chloride, which can cause irritation to dogs paws and skin, and be harmful if ingested. "Pet Safe" melts usually have less/no sodium chloride which helps protect against topical irritation from direct exposure. However, many labeled "pet safe" are based with chemicals such as ethylene glycol or similar, which can be much more harmful if ingested. ***The important thing to remember is:***

- NO ice melt is completely safe for pets
- Use it sparingly and when possible avoid walking your dog through patches of it
- Wipe your dogs feet after exposure to prevent skin irritation or possible ingestion from licking. (We recommend the CDT special; warm water and a touch of dawn!)



## New Year, New You!

We kindly ask that everyone be on time for scheduled drop-off and pick-up times. Days are tightly scheduled (often down to the minutes) and it is very disruptive if anyone is more than 10 minutes early or late. Thanks in advance for being prompt and helping us provide the dogs the best possible care.

# Canine Good Citizen Test (CGC)

As we mentioned, we are setting a goal of having 20 dogs pass the Canine Good Citizen test this year! For those of you who are not familiar with becoming a **Canine Good Citizen (CGC)**, it is a program run through the **American Kennel Club (AKC)** to recognize dogs that have **good manners** in the public and community as well as at home and owners who pledge **responsible pet ownership**. Becoming a Canine Good Citizen is a national (and in some cases international) recognition that is considered the entry level certification for AKC programs. Passing the CGC test is a foundation for dogs to continue on to competition activities, service and therapy dogs, and other certification programs. Becoming a CGC isn't just for those looking to compete or work, but is encouraged for every day pets. Being a CGC is an honor and sets a good example for dog ownership. Some apartment complexes and homeowners insurance companies will even offer discounts or require dogs to be CGC certified. The CGC is open to any breed or mix and can help fight breed discrimination as ordinances and laws continue to be passed banning certain breeds of dogs. Training for, practicing and passing the Canine Good Citizen Test is a lot of fun and great for bragging rights! 😊

The certification is comprised of 2 parts; first a responsible ownership pledge where owners must sign agreeing to take proper care of their dogs health, needs, exercise, training and quality of life. The second is a hands on test for the dog comprised of 10 steps to demonstrate good manners and obedience.

CDT will be offering a CGC preparatory group class on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday every month @ 10am. This class will give the opportunity to do mock tests to see where you and your dog need to practice in order to pass the test. Linda Stallings is a certified Canine Good Citizen Evaluator and works with another local training company Paws and Possibilities to evaluate each other's students for the test. An official test has been scheduled for **Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup>** and we would love to see as many of our students participate. For new students going through training the CGC is a great goal to strive for, and many of our past students are already well trained and good mannered citizens that could easily pass this test! We encourage everyone to look into it and contact us with any questions and take advantage of our Group Classes to work up to May's test.

For details on the 10 tests performed please visit [CGC Training & Test Items – American Kennel Club](https://www.akc.org/cgc/training-test-items/)

## Photo Out-Takes >>>

*In wasn't Wally's mom picked him up from Playgroup that we realized why Wally took such a liking to Stevie...*



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