

Good Dog! Gazette

The Rover Rescue Newsletter Winter 2020

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Irresistible Holiday Dog Cookies

Ingredients

- 2 c. whole wheat or unbleached flour
- 1 tbsp. baking powder
- 1 c. peanut butter
- 1 c. non-fat plain Greek yogurt
- Water as needed

Directions

1. Pre-heat the oven to 375°F.
2. Combine ingredients until they form a soft dough. Add a little water if dough is too dry.
3. Roll out dough on parchment paper and cut out with cookie cutters.
4. Place on lightly greased cookie sheet and bake for 15-18 min.
5. Cool and store in airtight plastic container.

Dear Santa,

My mom says we can have a dog! A big one who will run around the backyard with me, play tug 'o war and bring his toys for me to throw for him. Maybe with spots, floppy ears and a stubby tail. Oh, yeah, and gives me lots and lots and lots of kisses!

I'll feed him and take him outside when he needs to go potty, give him a bath when he's dirty and take him to the park to have fun with the other dogs. I've saved up my allowance and I'll buy him a bright red squeaky ball and dog bones he can chew on. I'll even take him to the vet with Mom for his shots! He can sleep with me every night – Mom said it's ok. He'll be my best friend and I'll make him really happy.

Maybe you can bring my new dog when you come to our house soon, Santa. I know you're really busy, but Mom says there are a lot of dogs who don't have a home or anybody to love them – can you bring one of those dogs for me? He won't be afraid or lonely any more at our house! He'll have a warm bed to sleep on and lots of good food and I'll pet him all the time. He can sit by my desk while I'm doing my homework and help me do my chores. He'll wag his tail every day and won't be sad and alone ever again!

Will you bring me a homeless dog who needs us as much as my mom and me need him, please, please, please? I can't wait until I have my very own dog, Santa!

It's ok if he's a girl dog – I can still call her Spot, right?

Your Friend Forever,
Me



Rover Rescue

An All-Volunteer Group Dedicated to Giving Homeless Dogs a Happy Future

PO Box 4074 ☘ Aurora, Illinois 60507 ☘ 630-897-7454
www.roverrescue.org

Letter from the President

Dear Friends and Family,

This year has been unlike any we have ever gone through, and the pandemic has impacted Rover Rescue in both positive and negative ways. We have been very fortunate to be able to continue our in-home foster program, and more volunteers have been willing to open their hearts and homes to dogs in need. With so many people spending more time at home, interest in adopting dogs has also increased. Many of our foster dogs have found their forever homes faster than ever before.

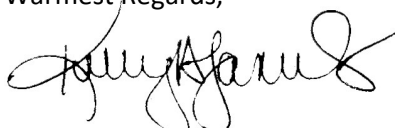
However, we are facing an ongoing challenge as we attempt to rent cargo vans to transport homeless dogs from southern Indiana shelters to our foster homes in the Chicago area. The massive surge in online shopping is now forcing us to compete with large retail corporations, which are leasing the available vehicles to deliver the sudden overload of packages. As a result, we are having difficulty finding cargo vans to rent and many times have been forced to ask volunteers to use their personal vehicles for transports, drastically impacting the number of dogs we are able to take in. We have started an urgent GoFundMe account to help us purchase our own van to be sure we can do transports when they are needed – please consider contributing to this critical fund at [roverrescue.org/van](https://www.roverrescue.org/van) today!

The stay-at-home order initiated this spring also forced us to indefinitely postpone our Annual Pet Dog Show, which is a huge fundraiser for Rover Rescue. We are hopeful that we will be able to host this event in the fall of 2021. The new date will be announced on our website as soon as it is available.

As the state health restrictions have started to relax, the number of adoption events we are able to attend has slowly increased. The Rover Eats Out events are beginning to resume, as well — the latest dates and locations are at [RoverRescue.org](https://www.RoverRescue.org). We are adjusting and working diligently to give the dogs in our care the best chance at finding wonderful forever homes to call their own.

We hope the situation improves and life begins to get back to normal in the coming months. As we continue with our work to find homes for the dogs and puppies in our care, we will need your support more than ever before. Please consider fostering, volunteering to help with the transports or making a monetary donation. With your help, we can do it!

Warmest Regards,



Kelly Janulis, President

"He is your friend, your partner, your defender, your dog. You are his life, his love, his leader. He will be yours, faithful and true, to the last beat of his heart. You owe it to him to be worthy of such devotion."

– Unknown

Kudos to Our Amazing Rover Rescue Sponsors

Our most sincere gratitude to these great sponsors who have so generously donated to the homeless dogs and puppies of Rover Rescue:

Jennifer Leska • The Klemm Family
Lee Blakley • Dr. Lori Civello • John & Barbara Carlisle
Barry, Cathy & Skeeter Rothblum • The Tukker Family • Lorraine Flaws

Our Homeless Dogs Need Your Help!

We've had increasing difficulties in locating rental vans to transport the hundreds of homeless dogs and puppies we rescue from southern Indiana each year. The problem has become even worse since large retail corporations have begun leasing all available vans to make deliveries for the huge surge in online shopping due to the pandemic.

To be sure we'll always have a vehicle available for the transports, we've decided to buy our own cargo van. Owning our own vehicle means we'll never again have to cancel a transport or reschedule it for another week – putting a dog at risk of being euthanized before we can save him.



This is a very expensive purchase for us and we desperately need your assistance in raising \$49,900 as quickly as possible. Please find it in your heart to donate to our van fund at roverrescue.org/van and help us continue rescuing as many homeless dogs as we can! Even a few dollars would make a tremendous difference.

Your support is *greatly* appreciated by all of your friends at Rover Rescue – both the two and four-footed ones!



Share the Holiday Joy

See the link to our Amazon wish list at RoverRescue.org/Help-Us/Wish-List/ or donate one of the items below to make the holidays brighter for our homeless dogs and puppies!

- Dog toys
- Dog treats
- Towels
- Paper towels
- Invitation-size envelopes
- #10 business envelopes
- Baby gates
- White laser jet address labels (30/sheet)
- Garbage bags
- New or like new dog crates
- Stamps
- New stainless steel dog bowls
- New collars
- New leashes
- Dog beds
- HE laundry detergent
- Clorox multipurpose spray cleaner

Call us at 630.897.7454 for a convenient drop-off location for your donation!

A Generous Birthday Girl

For Eloise's 11th birthday, she asked her family and friends to donate to her GoFundMe page that supports local animal shelters and pet fostering organizations. *She raised almost \$300. Then Eloise went shopping for the items most in need and donated them to Rover Rescue and the Aurora Animal Shelter. Eloise wants to be a veterinarian when she grows up. We think she'll make an excellent pet doctor!*

Eloise Burns with some of her donations and her very own furry friend.





Home Furever!

My mom and I adopted Blitz back in April, and we wanted to say thank you so much for helping us find her! She was very nervous at first, but adjusted to our home very quickly. She was also super nervous meeting new people, but now she wants to meet everyone! Thank you so much!!! We renamed her Bebe. :)

Anna Ezop



A Terrific Foster Mom

We had a wonderful experience with Lucy, one of Rover Rescue's foster moms. She is amazing!!! Lucy was so inviting from the first day, when we went to meet all the puppies. She could see the love we had for them all. We picked our one and named him Rocky David!!! Over the week before we got to take him home, she sent texts, pics, videos and even took the time to call me after his surgery. Lucy was a real blessing to us!!! Thank you again for allowing us to rescue Rocky David!

Love, Karen Cozen and Family

Apple Mint Holiday Dog Bones

Ingredients

1½ c. whole wheat flour
1 c. unbleached flour
½ c. rolled oats
⅓ c. oat bran
2 tbsp. dry milk
1½ tsp. dry yeast
2 tbsp. chopped spearmint leaves
½ c. applesauce
⅔ c. water

Optional: 2 tsp. powdered food coloring or spinach powder

Directions

1. Combine ingredients well using bread machine or mixer with dough hook.
2. Roll dough until ¼-in. thick, then cut with cookie cutter.
3. Bake at 250°F for about 1 hr., checking to ensure they don't get too brown.
4. Turn off oven and leave dog bones inside to dry completely, preferably overnight.
5. Dog bones can be stored in airtight plastic container for several months.



A Happy Boy

Two years ago today I brought home my boy Oscar. I had signed the adoption papers a week before, but due to my living situation, I had to wait a week to finally bring him home. He's been such an amazing dog and I couldn't be happier with my decision to adopt him! I adopted his brother Tommy from you guys almost a year ago. Oscar is a min pin and Tommy is a rat terrier.

Thanks, Linda





GIVE SANTA A HAND WITH HANDMADE DOG TOYS

You can make a ball tug toy from an old t-shirt and a tennis ball! First, lay the shirt flat and cut two 5-6 in. wide tube-like strips and a third tube-like strip about 2 in. wide. Then snip one end of each tube. Place the two wide strips in an X shape, put the tennis ball in the middle, wrap it up and gather the ends of the strips at the bottom of the ball. Use part of the skinny strip to tie a double knot tightly around the gathered fabric. Next, cut one of the four long strips hanging from the base of the ball into three even sections and braid the sections; tie the braid off with part of the skinny strip. Repeat these steps with the other three strips. Snip the bottoms of the braids so they're even — and voilà, you have a fun and fabulous ball tug toy!

Want something that's even easier to make? Take a large towel and cut three strips about 4 in. wide and at least 12 in. long (or longer), then cut two more skinny strips about 1 in. wide and 6 in. long. Gather the three large strips together and secure the top end tightly with one of the skinny strips. Braid the large strips and tie the bottom end off tightly with the second skinny strip. When you and your dog play with your new tug toy, you can shove little bits of kibble inside for an extra surprise. (Don't worry, it's washable.)

For something cool and super-simple, make your four-footed buddy a frozen sock toy! Just take a clean, long sock (an athletic sock works great), soak it in water, then freeze it. Ta da — a cool new chew toy is ready to serve!

If your pup is gentle with his toys, you can make a holiday themed heart for him. Stack two layers of fleece on a flat surface and trace a heart shape on top with a pen or fine-tip marker. Keeping the layers stacked, cut a circle 2-3 in. around the outside of the heart, then cut 1-in. wide strips into the edges of the circle that end at the outline of the heart. Double-knot the matching top and bottom strips together, going two-thirds of the way around the heart. Before you close the heart completely, fill the inside with long strips of extra fleece. (Don't use small pieces, so your dog doesn't ingest the fleece if the knots fail.) Finish tying the last strips together and your dog will have a heart-filled new toy, made by you!

When Fido Gets the Z-o-o-m-i-e-s

If your dog suddenly bursts into motion, runs laps in wide circles, does a series of sharp spins, or abruptly takes off in new directions — all at lightning speed — he probably has a case of the zoomies!

Did you know the zoomies are officially known as frenetic random activity periods, a.k.a. "FRAPS?" Some experts believe they help your dog relieve stress, let out stored-up energy, express excitement, or are a form of play. They may happen when he sees another dog, his favorite person comes home, after a bath, being released from the crate or when there's snow outside.

There's no need to worry — the zoomies are a normal dog behavior. When they hit, just be sure your dog doesn't run into unsafe places, such as a road or through an area with dangerous objects, like sharp tools or nails. If needed, you

can throw a toy in the direction you want him to go or you can run away from him, so he chases after you into a safer area. It's hard to stop a dog in mid-zoom, so it's usually easiest to wait it out. Most of the time, a case of the zoomies continues just a moment or two, although they can last upwards of 10 minutes or so.

It's fun to watch, because the dogs seem so happy and so free. The next time your furry friend gets revved up with the zoomies, enjoy the show!



Calvin's Holiday Dog Cookies

Ingredients

- 1 c. rye or all-purpose flour
- $\frac{3}{4}$ tsp. baking powder
- $\frac{1}{4}$ c. unsweetened applesauce
- 2 tbsp. organic honey
- $3\frac{1}{2}$ tbsp. olive or canola oil
- 2 tbsp. dried cranberries, finely chopped
- 2 tbsp. pumpkin seeds

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 350°F.
2. Mix flour, baking powder, applesauce, honey and oil in bowl until well combined.
3. Knead dough on lightly floured surface and roll until $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. thick. Cut with cookie cutter and place on parchment-lined baking sheet.
4. Firmly press a few pumpkin seeds and chopped cranberries into each cookie.
5. Bake for 12-15 min., or until firm to the touch.
6. Turn off oven and open oven door. Cool cookies in oven, about 20-30 min.
7. Store the cookies several days in an airtight container in a cool, dry, dark location, or they can be frozen.



Winter Safety Tips +

- 1. Watch out for late-season ticks** – Many species of ticks are active even in the winter and can survive the first frost. Check for these pests frequently and don't let them get cozy – eliminate their favorite environments, such as leaf and garden litter, where they sometimes survive into the cold months. Consider continuing tick repellent year-round, especially if you and your dog spend a lot of time outdoors hiking and camping.
- 2. Keep rat poison far away** – Rodents often try to come inside in search of warmth this time of year, and your home may be a target. Be careful with placing mouse traps which could injure your dog or putting out rat and mouse poison that could be deadly to him, especially if ingested. If your dog gets ahold of a rodent carcass, make him drop it immediately and watch for signs he ingested any of the carcass, since it could transfer the poison to him. Contact your vet immediately, if so!
- 3. Beware of toxic mushrooms in damp areas** – Some forms of fungus are not as benign as the mushrooms we put on our salads. In the right conditions, mushrooms can crop up across backyards and forest floors – and a few of them are highly toxic to our furry friends and to us! If you think your dog has gobbled up a toxic mushroom, contact the ASCPA Animal Poison Control Center at 888-426-4435 right away.
- 4. Feed your pet right for the colder conditions** – With the dropping temperatures, your dog needs more energy to stay warm and thrive. Because of that, he'll probably need to eat a little more food throughout the winter to generate sufficient body heat, especially if he spends a lot of time exercising outdoors. Each dog's needs are different, so check with your veterinarian on how much you should increase your four-footed friend's food.
- 5. Guard against the danger of antifreeze in driveways and garages** – Antifreeze toxicity is a wintertime peril for all animals. Just one or two teaspoons can kill a 10-pound dog and even less can kill a 10-pound cat. Unfortunately, the sickly-sweet smell entices pets to lap it up. Be sure to clean up any spills immediately and keep all of your pets away from the garage while you're working on your vehicle.
- 6. Chocolate and other human foods can be toxic** – As you celebrate the holidays with your family and friends, you may be tempted to share your favorite treats with your dog. Be warned, though – what's fine for humans can sometimes be dangerous to your four-footed buddy. Chocolate, alcohol, onions, garlic, macadamia nuts, grapes, raisins and gum with xylitol top a long list of hazardous foods that can make your dog critically ill.



Is Your Dog Vulnerable to COVID-19?

Unfortunately, the answer is “yes.” While the current data suggests the likelihood of animals spreading the coronavirus to humans is quite low, there have been some reports of dogs contracting the virus from their human families. So if someone in your household comes down with the coronavirus, you should protect your dog like you would any other family member. Isolate the infected person from everyone else, including your dog.

If you become infected, restrict contact with your dog, just like you would with people. While you recover, have another member of your household take care of him, if possible. Avoid petting and snuggling with him, being kissed or licked, sharing food with him and sleeping in the same bed. If no one else can care for your dog while you're ill, be sure to always wear a mask and wash your hands before and after you interact with him.

To keep your dog safe, walk him on a leash at least 6 feet away from everyone else, including other dogs. Avoid public places where large numbers of people are gathered. **Do not** put a mask on your dog, as it could harm him or cause him to panic. Also, **do not** wipe or bathe your dog with chemical disinfectants, alcohol, hydrogen peroxide, hand sanitizer, counter-cleaning wipes or other industrial or surface cleaners in an attempt to remove the virus. The chemicals could make him severely ill and potentially kill him.

Should your dog become infected with the coronavirus, he may get obviously sick or have no symptoms at all, just like a human. If you have any reason to think your dog may have contracted the virus, first consult with your veterinarian by phone. It's best to check on the clinic's procedures before taking in a potentially contagious pet to avoid possibly spreading the contagion even further.

The good news is that of the pets that have gotten the coronavirus, most have only been mildly ill and have recovered fully. By taking proper precautions, you and your canine buddy can come through the pandemic safe and healthy.



Looking Forward to the Next Annual Rover Rescue Pet Dog Show

Unfortunately, we were unable to hold our exciting annual event last spring due to the coronavirus and could not reschedule it this year with the restrictions still in place. We are talking with the Aurora Turners Club about dates for 2021, potentially in the fall.

Watch for the new date to be announced on our website as soon as it is available!



Apple Pie Pupsicles



Ingredients

- ½ c. unsweetened applesauce or pureed apple
- ½ c. plain yogurt*
- Sprinkle of cinnamon (optional)

**Add a little water to thick yogurt for easier mixing.*

Directions

1. Combine ingredients in a bowl until thoroughly mixed.
2. Pour into a silicone mold or ice cube tray.
3. Freeze and remove from the mold or tray. Place treats in a container and store in the freezer until ready to serve.

Rover Rescue

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Aurora, Illinois 60507

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What's Ahead?



Open Your Heart and Home

You'll be richly rewarded when you become a foster parent to a homeless dog with nowhere to go. Save a life this holiday – go to RoverRescue.org for details!



Rover Eats Out Events

Have fun with the whole family at these great fundraising events – check our website for the next dates and locations.



Bring Holiday Cheer to Our Homeless Hounds

Make a donation from your family to ours! Go to RoverRescue.org and click on Donate now to give our dogs a wonderful holiday treat!



Contribute to Our Transport Van Fund!

We need your help to raise \$49,900 to buy a cargo van that will allow us to continue transporting as many homeless dogs and puppies as possible from high-kill shelters.

Please donate to our Transport Van Fund at roverrescue.org/van today!

