

# FRIENDS OF DOGBONE MEADOW

WWW.FRIENDSOFDGBONEMEADOW.COM

NUMBER 23



A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
DEDICATED TO THE MAINTENANCE  
AND BEAUTIFICATION  
OF NOVATO'S FINEST DOG PARK

## IMPORTANT!

APPARENTLY A FEW DOGS THAT VISIT DOGBONE MEADOW HAVE BEEN DIAGNOSED RECENTLY WITH KENNEL COUGH. PLEASE SEE PAGE 4 FOR INFORMATION ABOUT KENNEL COUGH.

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

We are waiting impatiently now, for the start of the improvements to our dog park. The Community Garden had decided to try and put the road through the park again. We this was settled, especially when they stated last year that they would not be touching the park. Now they have run into large costs and wanted to go back to their original design, the one that would have taken out all the shade trees in the area where the Heritage Oak used to be. We had to sit down with the City again; we offered a plan that would run a road alongside Novato Blvd into their area. This was agreed on by all present at our last meeting with the City and Garden Group last June. Now we are waiting on the engineer and the landscape designer to give the go ahead on the road and also on dog park improvements.

We have made many phone calls and emails to get this project, which includes our small dog park, going. So we ask you for continuing patience as we move slowly forward.

Our last "Behaviorist at the Park Day" went very well. A lot of you let us know how good you felt it was. On this basis we have asked for a repeat which is tentatively scheduled for

Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:00. This is a FREE event with sandwiches and drinks. We will be selling our tee shirts, caps and note cards, so we hope you all can join us.

Brian Pearson  
President

## AUTUMN FESTIVAL

A modified version of BarkFest will be held Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 to 2:00 at Dogbone Meadow. (Rain day to be determined.) We'll have a raffle, the usual contests, especially the dog costume contest, and the bake sale. Tee shirts and caps will be for sale. Save the date!



Photo by Kim Vogee

## BRIEF DISCUSSION OF PARK RULES

We randomly pick a rule to discuss each month. This month it's rule No. 10, not exactly a rule, but a strong recommendation:

### **10. It is recommended that no unneutered dogs or dogs in heat be brought into the Dog Park.**

It happens fairly often. The dog park is crowded, the dogs are getting along, and then suddenly the energy changes. The dogs get a little or lot more aggressive. What just happened? An unneutered dog came in the dog park. (Unneutered puppies do not seem to cause a stir.)

Now it gets tricky. The owner does not want to hear that his or her dog, a dog that may be well-trained and calm, is the source of the trouble. There is no law against an unneutered dog being brought to Dogbone Meadow, so other owners cannot demand that the dog be taken out. (They can make such a demand if the dog is not well-behaved, just as they can ask that any poorly behaved, unsocialized dog be removed. That doesn't mean it's going to happen though.) One can move to another end of the park or one can take one's dog and exit the park.

It would be nice if the owners of unneutered dogs would schedule their visits for a time when the dog park is not crowded, avoiding the weekends especially.

### **DOG BEHAVIORIST TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup> AT 11:00 A.M.**

The last seminar with dog behaviorist Kathleen Call was so successful that another session has been scheduled for Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 a.m. If you missed the previous one, here's another chance to learn about the dynamics of dog park behavior – canine and otherwise. In the meantime, check out the illustrations on the opposite page.



*Seminar participants grab a little shade during the dog behavior seminar July 19<sup>th</sup>..*

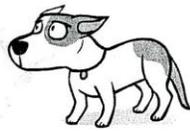


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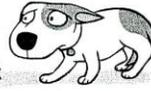
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**DROP IN AND HAVE YOUR  
DOG'S NAILS CLIPPED  
FOR ONLY \$5 (PER DOG)**

# Body Language of Fear in Dogs



**Slight Cowering**

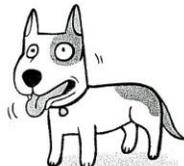


**Major Cowering**

## More Subtle Signs of Fear & Anxiety



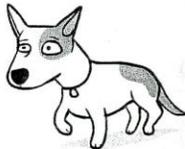
**Licking Lips**  
when no food nearby



**Panting**  
when not hot or thirsty



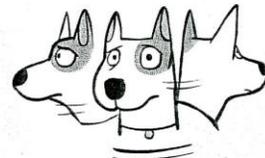
**Brows Furrowed, Ears to Side**



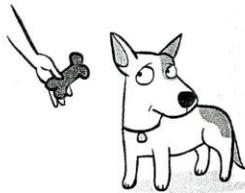
**Moving in Slow Motion**  
walking slow on floor



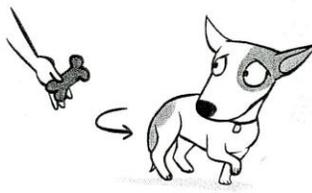
**Acting Sleepy or Yawning**  
when they shouldn't be tired



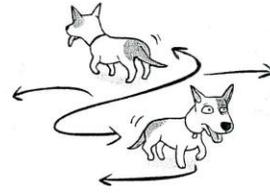
**Hypervigilant**  
looking in many directions



**Suddenly Won't Eat**  
but was hungry earlier



**Moving Away**



**Pacing**

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Dr. Sophia Yin, DVM, MS  
*The Art and Science of Animal Behavior*

For additional free dog bite prevention resources and more dog behavior books and products, visit [www.drSophiaYin.com](http://www.drSophiaYin.com).



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## **KENNEL COUGH A POTENTIAL PROBLEM WHERE DOGS CONGREGATE**

There have been a few cases of kennel cough diagnosed recently in dogs that have been at Dogbone Meadow. Since it's a highly contagious disease that can be prevented, here is some information from the ASPCA:

### What Is Kennel Cough?

Kennel cough is a term loosely used to describe a complex of infections—both viral and bacterial—that causes inflammation of a dog's voice box and windpipe. It's a form of bronchitis and is similar to a chest cold in humans.

### What Are the General Symptoms of Kennel Cough?

A persistent dry cough with a "honking" sound is the main clue your dog's caught kennel cough. In most cases, she'll appear healthy except for the cough. Her appetite and activity level usually won't change, but don't be alarmed if she gags and coughs up a white, foamy phlegm—these signs are often worse after exercise, or if she's excited or pulls against her collar. Some dogs may also develop a fever and nasal discharge.

### What Should I Do if I Think My Dog Has Kennel Cough?

If you suspect your dog has kennel cough, immediately isolate her from all other dogs and call your veterinarian.

### How Did My Dog Catch Kennel Cough?

Kennel Cough can spread through aerosols in the air, directly from dog to dog, or through germs on contaminated objects. Kennel cough is often spread in enclosed areas with poor air circulation—while boarding in a kennel or an animal shelter, for example, or through direct contact in a vaccination clinic, training class or dog-grooming facility.

Kennel cough is so contagious that your pet might even catch it from sharing a water dish at the dog park or by simply greeting another dog. Most kennels will not board your pet without proof of a recent vaccination against parainfluenza and bordetella, two of the main causes of kennel cough.

### Which Dogs Are Prone to Kennel Cough?

Most often, dogs who have frequent contact with other dogs, especially in enclosed or poorly ventilated areas, are most prone to becoming infected. Young and unvaccinated dogs are also at higher risk.

### How Is Kennel Cough Prevented?

The best way to prevent kennel cough is to prevent exposure. Vaccinations are also available for several of the agents known to be involved in kennel cough, including parainfluenza, bordetella and adenovirus-2. Ask your vet if these are recommended, and how often—but please keep in mind that vaccinations aren't useful if a dog has already caught the virus.

### How Is Kennel Cough Treated?

It's smart to see your veterinarian if your dog develops a cough. In some cases, you may be advised to simply let kennel cough run its course and heed the following:

1. Dogs with kennel cough should be isolated from other dogs.
2. A humidifier or vaporizer can provide some relief. You can also allow your dog into the bathroom while you shower. The steam will help soothe her irritated breathing passages.
3. Avoid exposing her to cigarette smoke or other noxious, irritating fumes.
4. A cough suppressant or antimicrobial may be prescribed. Your vet can be able to determine if they would be helpful to your dog.
5. If your dog pulls against her collar while being walked, replace it with a harness until the coughing subsides.
6. Supportive care is very important—be sure your dog is eating, drinking and in a stress-free environment.

### How Long Does Kennel Cough Last?

In most cases, the signs of kennel cough gradually decrease and disappear after three weeks. Young puppies, elderly dogs and other immunocompromised animals may take up to six weeks or more to recover. In some cases, animals may remain infectious for long periods of time even after the symptoms have cleared up.

### When Is It Time To See The Vet Again?

You should see some improvement in your dog's condition within one week of treatment, but be alert to how long the symptoms last. If your dog has nasal discharge, is breathing rapidly, refuses to eat or seems lethargic, take her to the veterinarian right away. Serious cases of kennel cough can lead to pneumonia if left untreated.

**NOT YET A MEMBER? EASY TO JOIN! HERE'S THE FORM! OR JOIN ON THE WEBSITE (*have we mentioned the website lately?*): [www.friendsofdogbonemeadow.com](http://www.friendsofdogbonemeadow.com)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

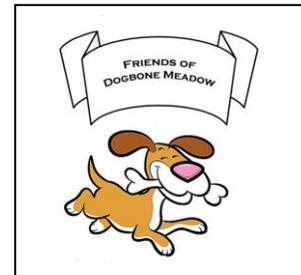
Street \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Dog's name \_\_\_\_\_



Individual voting membership (\$26) \_\_\_\_\_

Or

Individual associate membership (\$13) \_\_\_\_\_

And/or

Donation \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to:

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P.O. Box 773  
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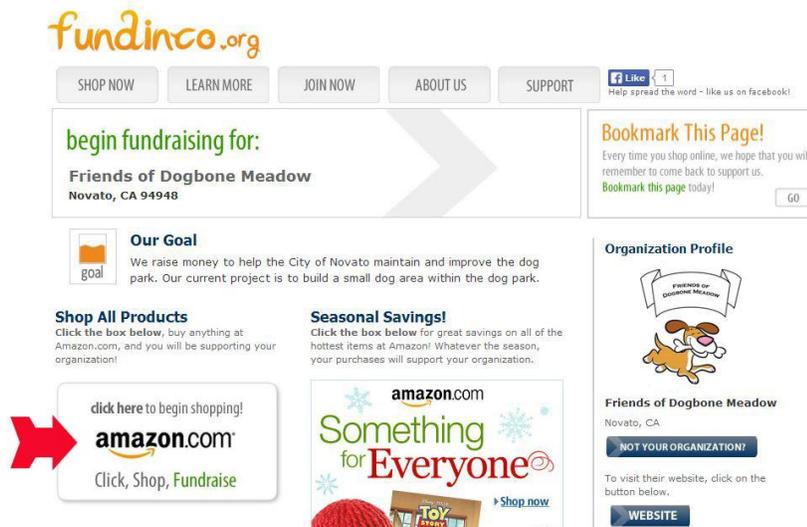
**HOW TO DONATE PAINLESSLY**

By clicking on a button on our website, 3% of your Amazon purchase will go to Friends of Dogbone Meadow. Here's how it works:

1. Go to [www.friendsofdogbonemeadow.com](http://www.friendsofdogbonemeadow.com). You will see this:



2. Click on the "Shop Amazon and Donate" button. You will be taken to a page that looks like this:



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