



Clark County Sheriff's Office

PAWS PATROL

Enhancing Community Safety and Livability

January 2025

From Tails to Trails: A Summer Update from Paws on Patrol

Time for a quick update since it's our first newsletter since May! This summer, Paws on Patrol was out and about at pawsitively fabulous events! In June we attended Bark in the Park at Pacific Community Park in Vancouver. Sheriff Auxiliary helped sign up 15 new Paws on Patrol volunteers (photo left) and we even got to meet some current Paws on Patrol volunteers (photo right).

In August, we had a great time at National Night Out at Holley Park in La Center! K-9 Ajax treated the crowd to a demo (photos on pg. 2). Several La Center residents have since joined Paws on Patrol, boosting our enrollment to 255! Other events include the Clark County Fair and most recently, Bark for Life, a program to help bring awareness and support to cancer survivors. It was a great summer!



Paws on Patrol is a volunteer program to encourage dog walkers to be more aware of their surroundings, enhancing their personal safety while also contributing to a safer community.

Paws on Patrol | [Click Here](#)

K-9 CORNER



*Deputy
Dunham &
Riggs*



Hello ComPAWdres,

Summer flew by and the Sheriff's Office K-9 unit was very busy throughout. We did several public demonstrations over the summer so hopefully you got to see us and meet a few of our dogs. If not, well there is always next summer so keep your ears open for demo dates and times!

As we are in the fall season now, the days become shorter and shorter. Please be safe while you are on patrol and consider reflective outerwear and/or a flashlight to increase your visibility. Remember to slow down when driving through school zones as our kids are back in the swing of things. Help keep them safe and avoid that big ticket. Thanks for all you do for our community.

Deputy Dunham and K-9 Riggs

SANTA'S POSSE Partnership of Giving



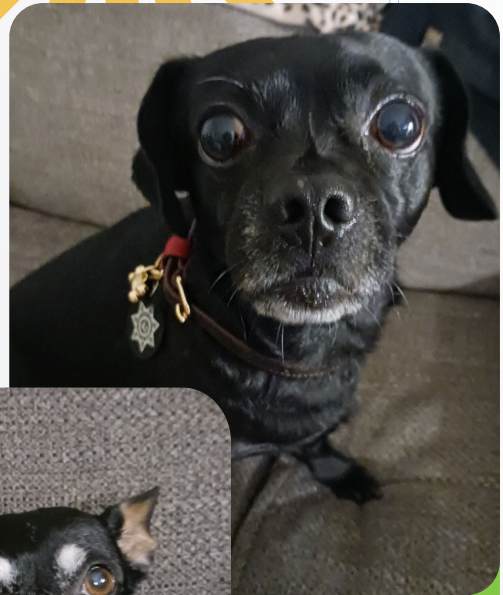
Can you believe the holiday rush is just around the corner? Santa's Posse is already preparing to assist 1,500 families this holiday season!

Founded in 1997, Santa's Posse aims to support families in need during the holidays and provide positive connections between law enforcement and the community.

What began with delivering to just 25 families has now expanded to 1,500! We are thankful for our community partners, sponsors, and volunteers who make Santa's Posse possible!

Delivery day is set for Saturday, December 14th, and we need volunteers to help distribute food and gifts to the families. If you want to help spread some holiday cheer, [click here](#) to register.

[For more details about Santa's Posse, click here.](#)



Blazer



Shotgun

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

This spotlight features Shotgun and Blazer!

Shotgun recently joined Clark County Sheriff's Paws on Patrol after retiring from Vancouver Police's program, due to a move outside city limits. Shotgun might be a little older, but that gives her experience.

Shotgun's keen instincts are unmatched; she recently located a lost kitten and alerted her owner to a suspicious figure hiding in the bushes the night before a nearby attempted kidnapping incident!

Blazer is from the streets and was rescued as a pup. He enjoys patrolling his neighborhood looking for crime and anyone who might need help. Blazer enjoys going on missions with his sister Shotgun and being her "back up."

Together they are an unstoppable Paws on Patrol team!

-Laurie

Would you like your Paws on Patrol pet(s) to be featured in a future newsletter? Send info and photos to:

CntySheriff.CommunityOutreach@clark.wa.gov

Meet More Paws on Patrol Partners



Molly

This is Molly and she loves to walk. She's an old girl and has slowed down quite a bit but still likes her daily walks and checking out what's happening in the neighborhood. She got her "second chance" at Southwest Washington Humane Society after being rescued from a puppy mill in Texas.

She is a very mellow and laid back girl who allows nothing except cats to excite her. She loves being petted as well. Just start scratching her back and she will lean into you and if you stop she gives you a look like "is that all there is?"

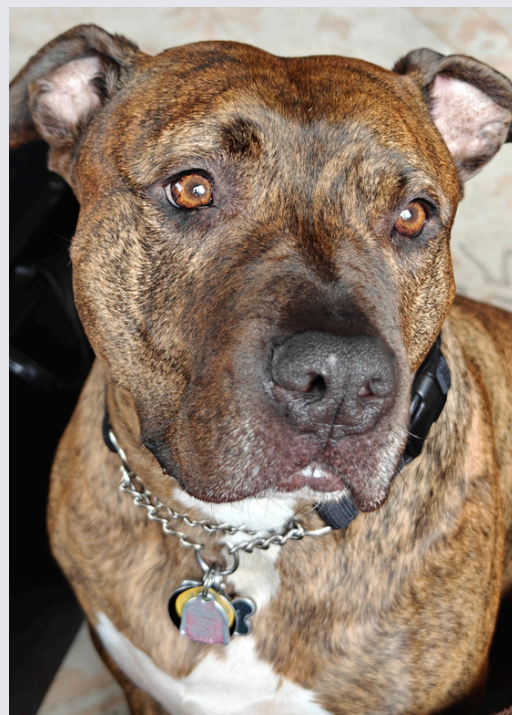
We joined the Paws on Patrol because we walk nearly every day and we might as well do something good in the neighborhood. We have not observed any reportable issues so far. As far as she's concerned everyone she crosses paths with are there for no other reason then to pet her.

-Gabriella - her person

This is Joe. He is 6 years old. He is an American Pitbull Terrier. I rescued him from the Humane Society at Long Beach Wa. when he was 1 and a half. He is amazing. He is extremely smart and has a great sense of humor. His best friend is Walter, a 7 pound Jack Russell/Dachshund.

Please stop and say "hi" if you see us walking around Washougal. Joe is very friendly, well trained, obedient and loves everyone.

-Rhonda



Joe

Celebrate Adopt-A-Dog Month®

Our featured Paws on Patrol partners Blazer, Molly, and Joe share a special bond as rescue dogs, shining a light on the importance of adopting dogs in need.

Since 1981, American Humane has celebrated "Adopt-a-Dog Month®" each October in an effort to help the estimated 3-4 million animals waiting in shelters every year get the loving, forever homes that they deserve. To learn more about adopting a dog from your local shelter or rescue group, visit americanhumane.org.

Canines for Clean Water

Clark County is home to over 110,000 dogs, of all shapes and sizes. Their poop adds up to more than 18 tons every day! Pet waste left on the ground mixing with stormwater can be washed into storm drains that lead directly to our streams and lakes. This waste carries harmful bacteria which can affect the health of aquatic wildlife, ourselves and our children.

Join thousands of Clark County neighbors and show your commitment to protecting the streams and lakes we love by pledging to:

- Scoop it, bag it and trash it. Everywhere.
- Keep dogs on leash in sensitive places like wetlands, riparian zones and wildlife habitat areas.
- Help spread this message to other dog owners!

Properly disposing of dog poop also helps you:

- Keep pets healthy.
- Make yards and parks safer and more pleasant places to play.
- Keep your and your family's shoes clean.
- Keep out of trouble with local ordinances.
- Support a healthy watershed.

We appreciate your involvement in the Paws on Patrol program and your commitment as responsible pet parents. Let's share this important message to others, too!

Talking with Neighbors

We know that it can be difficult to talk to your neighbors about picking up after their pets. Canines for Clean Water can offer support for talking to your neighbors about picking up after their pets and connecting with other folks in your neighborhood who want to tackle the problem with you. Our goal is to make your community a safer place for your family, your pets, and the environment you live in.

Clark County Clean Water Division staff can discuss with you the best way to confront the problem in your area, whether it be putting signs in problem spots, instituting a weekly "Pick-up Day" for your neighborhood, or setting up a public bag dispenser on the corner. We'll give you tips to connect with others in your neighborhood who are motivated to reduce pet waste pollution.



Take the pledge and help spread the message about Canines for Clean Water with this bandana (dog not included).

Clark County's Clean Water Program launched Canines for Clean Water in 2008 to raise awareness of the importance of picking up after dogs and to support residents addressing pet waste issues in their neighborhoods. Since then, more than 3500 residents have taken the Canines for Clean Water Pledge!

We have things that help make "Scoop it. Bag it. Trash it. Everywhere." a little easier. So take the pledge and let us know how we can help. Items are available to Clark County residents on a limited basis upon request and dependent on supply. To request items, email eric.lambert@clark.wa.gov and include your name, address and what you'd like.

www.cleanwaterdogs.com

[Canines for clean water flyer](#)

Pet Tips for Winter

Halloween is a festive time filled with costumes, treats, and spooky decorations. However, it can also pose unique risks for pets. Here are some tips to ensure your furry friends stay safe while you enjoy the holiday.

Keep candy out of reach

Chocolate, candies with xylitol, and certain other sweets can be toxic to pets. Ensure that all treats are stored securely and monitor your pets closely if you're giving out candy.

Safe spaces

With doorbells ringing and strangers in costumes, Halloween can be overwhelming for pets. Create a quiet, comfortable space away from the commotion where they can retreat if they feel anxious. If your dog tends to act aggressively, limit their exposure to the front door during trick-or-treating hours.

Costume caution

If you choose to dress your pet in a costume, make sure it fits well and doesn't restrict their movement or vision. Avoid costumes with small parts that could be swallowed. Always supervise your pet while they're in costume to prevent any mishaps.

Identification

Ensure your pets are wearing collars with ID tags and are microchipped. If they do escape during the festivities, this will increase the chances of a quick reunion.

Decorations and hazards

Be mindful of decorations such as candles, electric lights, and small ornaments that pets might chew on or knock over.

Keep pets indoors

On Halloween night, it's best to keep pets indoors to prevent them from getting lost or frightened by the noise and excitement outside. This is especially important for cats to protect them from potential dangers like traffic, other animals, or human pranks. With trick-or-treaters constantly ringing the doorbell, it's easy for a cat to slip outside. Consider keeping windows and doors closed or using baby gates to block their access to exit points.

We would love to share photos of your pets in costume on our social media platforms!

Send photos to: CntySheriff.CommunityOutreach@clark.wa.gov.