



Greyhound Pets of America Houston



## **Greyhound Pets of America - Houston**

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**Congratulations** on your adoption of a retired racing greyhound from Greyhound Pets of America - Houston and thank you for opening your heart and home to a wonderful hound.

This booklet is a resource for you and represents the best information we have available (from experts in their field and our own experienced members) to assist you during this period of adjustment and beyond.

In addition to familiarizing yourself with the contents of this folder, there are three key requests we have of you as the responsible owner of a retired racing greyhound.

- 1. GPA Identification Tag** - always keep the GPA Houston identification tag on your greyhound's collar at all times.
- 2. Lead & Collar** - always use a martingale collar and lead when you have your greyhound in an unsecured area.
- 3. If your greyhound becomes lost** - immediately call 713-866-4466 so that we can assist you!



[www.gpahouston.org](http://www.gpahouston.org)



Now that you have a greyhound in your life, you'll also find that you are a spokesperson for Greyhound Pets of America - Houston (GPA Houston) wherever you are with your greyhound. Much like you were before adopting your greyhound, people are interested in the breed, its history, a greyhound's nature and personality traits, whether they make good pets, and so on.

- Remember that, when you're out and about with your hound, you are representing not only GPA Houston, but all groups supporting greyhounds.
- Exhibit a positive, upbeat attitude about GPA Houston and greyhounds.
- Always clean up after your hound when in public places. Carrying paper towels / wipes / disposal bags makes clean up much easier.
- Maintain contact with your Adoption Committee representative. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact a member of the GPA Houston Board.

**Take extra care when discussing...**

Adoptions: Don't assume that a potential adopter will be able to adopt. As you know, there is a rigorous adoption application process, and only the Adoption Committee can approve adoption applications.

Greyhound personality / behavioral traits: Avoid broad statements such as "all greyhounds get along well with children / cats / small dogs, etc". Similar to people and other breeds, each greyhound is unique and will react differently in any given situation.

Housetraining: Most greyhounds have never been in a home; and, as each house is different, it's important not to lead people to believe that all greyhounds are housetrained. Greyhounds are for the most part 'kennel trained' but that is not a guarantee that they will be house trained without additional training and/or reinforcement.

Greyhounds off leash: Except in secure enclosed areas, greyhounds should never be off leash. Never imply that a greyhound can eventually be safely off leash.

Something you're not sure of: If you're not sure of the answer to a question, refer the individual to another member or the website – or simply say you do not know.

The Greyhound Racing Industry: GPA Houston remains neutral on the issue of racing and this stance is essential for the continued operation of GPA Houston. For more information, please contact one of the Board Members.

The fate of greyhounds: We strongly discourage any discussion around the number of greyhounds euthanized, no matter from where this information has come.



## CARING FOR YOUR GREYHOUND

**The adjustment period:** Recognizing the adjustment period and successfully managing it is a very important part of any greyhound adoption. It must be remembered that becoming a pet involves a dramatic change in routine which can be stressful for a greyhound and he must be given time to adjust to his new surroundings. In this regard, a quiet greyhound may



be fretful, a good eater reluctant to eat, a perfectly housebroken greyhound may have an accident. Give your pet time to get settled and don't worry about any odd behavior during the first few weeks. Your love, patience, and understanding will help your greyhound through this adjustment period that may last from a few days to a few weeks or months.

Greyhounds are friendly, affectionate dogs who thrive on attention and human companionship and make terrific pets once they get used to their new homes. Raised with their littermates, where they competed for affection, greyhounds love becoming the center of attention as pets.

**Housebreaking:** Your greyhound has been housed in a large crate in his trainer's kennel. He is used to being put outside in a fenced in pen to relieve himself four times a day. He may be used to getting up very early to be taken outside. To avoid accidents in the house, we recommend that you take him outside as soon as he gets up in the morning. You can gradually get him used to sleeping later. If your dog has an accident in the house, a verbal reprimand should usually suffice if you catch him in the act; then take him outside and use lots of praise when he relieves himself. Do not hit your dog or put his nose in the "accident". Greyhounds will respond more quickly and more positively to kindness. If more than 3 seconds have passed since the accident, a verbal reprimand will not be associated by your greyhound to the accident. Clean it up and let it go.

If your dog is a male (although females can mark also), he may attempt to lift his leg in a few places around the house to "mark his territory". Watch him carefully as he walks around the house and try to catch him before he does. It by responding with a firm NO and take him outside. If your dog has an accident, clean the spot, rinse the area with a solution of white vinegar and water or a commercial enzyme product such as Zaps It. This will neutralize the odor and discourage him from going in that spot again.

For the first few days, it's a good idea to go outside with your greyhound. This teaches him where his new home is and outside it where he goes to potty. This helps relieve the tension of being in a strange place, encourages bonding, and prevents accidents. You can then praise him at the appropriate moment. We also recommend using a crate to help in housebreaking and to eliminate possible "separation anxiety" while you are gone.

**Separation Anxiety and Alone Training:** *Separation anxiety is the #1 problem encountered by greyhound owners.* Some greyhounds suffer from mild to severe separation anxiety. This stems from confusion when you leave and fear that you will not come back. Remember, a greyhound has likely never been alone in his entire life. Typical symptoms are howling, barking, scratching or chewing at furniture and papers, and even wetting and messing around the house in your absence.



When you first adopt your greyhound you should begin alone training that very day. A couple days of alone training can greatly reduce any separation anxiety your dog may exhibit. Not practicing alone training over the first couple of days and then suddenly leaving for a full day of work is a sure way to come home to a mess and a very stressed out greyhound. To do alone training, start by putting your greyhound in his crate

and giving him a treat. Gather your personal items like you would before leaving for work, and then without making a fuss, leave the house. Wait a couple of minutes, then come back inside. (Do not enter the house if you hear him barking or whining, as this reinforces the unwanted behavior). Put your personal items down and after a couple of minutes quietly remove your greyhound from the crate. Wait a little bit and then repeat this procedure but increase your time away to ten minutes, then 30 minutes, then an hour, and so on. This will help your greyhound realize that you are coming home and being alone is only temporary.

Most greyhounds adjust to being alone very well, but some take may have a harder time adjusting and need a little extra help. Below are some helpful suggestions to help your pet adjust to your comings and goings.

*The following tips are taken in part from Heather Wester's report on her greyhound Dempsey's struggle with Separation Anxiety.*

#### Tip #1

Invest in a Kong or two (at pet stores). It will become your best friend. Fill the Kong with goodies- dog cookies, etc and seal with peanut butter, cream cheese, or plain yogurt. Give your dog the Kong every time you leave him/her alone and pick it up again as soon as you get home. You can even freeze the Kong so that it lasts longer. Your dog will learn to associate your departure with getting a yummy treat. It took some time, but Dempsey now gets excited when he is left alone- because he knows he's getting a treat!



#### Tip #2

If you crate your dog, do not crate only when you leave him/her alone. Crate your dog while you are in the room watching television, cleaning, or doing whatever. You may want to even consider feeding your dog in the crate. Give treats in the crate. If you only crate when leaving your dog home alone, she/he will learn to associate the crate with being home alone- not what you want! Make the crate a positive place to be. Some greyhounds like their crate cozy. Consider covering it halfway with an old blanket.

#### Tip #3

Do not, do not, do not make a big deal out of coming and going. If you spend a lot of time loving on your dog before leaving or when you first arrive home, s/he will get excited and think it's a big deal. You want your dog to learn that you leaving or coming home is nothing to be excited about. Before you leave, ignore your dog for about 15 minutes. Do not give attention, pet, etc, right before you leave. Also, when you get home, ignore your dog for about 10 - 15 minutes. I know this can seem really mean, but it is best for your dog in the long run. In addition, it is probably a good idea to act neutral as well when your dog is going along with you so s/he continues to think departures are no big deal.



#### Tip #4

Obedience class can help build confidence a lot. We took an 8 week class over the summer and the instructors were pretty surprised by how Dempsey really came out of his shell and quit cowering behind me. And hey, it can't hurt to have a dog who knows how to sit and stay! Make sure you practice at home as well. Practicing commands can be a nice way of bonding with your dog, increasing confidence, and tiring him/her out before you leave!

#### Tip #5

Does your dog try to be in constant proximity of you? It may seem cute and sweet but do not encourage it. Dempsey used to have to have some part of his body always touching mine. Made it pretty difficult to even go to the bathroom! Gradually work on putting some physical distance between you and your dog- scoot away on the couch or sit in a different chair. If your dog constantly has to be touching you, how will you make it to work? Dempsey used to follow me up and down the stairs constantly- he couldn't be alone in a room for even a few seconds! (This may

not be unusual when your dog first arrives, but when it continues, it can be a problem). Work on this as well- go to the bathroom alone and shut the door all the way, go upstairs, etc. Work on being out of sight of your dog, increasing the amount of time you are in different rooms from each other.



#### Tip #6

Where does your dog sleep? If she/he sleeps in your bed, you might want to consider a doggie bed. Put your dog's bed next to yours or in the same room and encourage the dog to sleep there. (I know this is hard, especially during winter since greyhounds sure are warm!)

#### Tip #7

Does your dog have problems with defecating or urinating in the house or crate? This was the part of Dempsey's separation anxiety that stuck around the longest. Nothing seemed to work. I moved his bed to the area (right in front of the door) where he kept pooping. He would just go on top of his bed and finally ruined the bed. What helped the most was to feed him in this spot and keep his dishes there. It's a pain since it's right near the door, but it was SO worth it! Make sure

you clean the area as best as you can so there is no remaining smell to encourage future peeing or pooping. Take the dog out of the room while you clean (and light some candles for your own benefit!). Also, make sure you have learned your dog's schedule and when he/she needs to actually go (usually within 20 minutes or so after eating, if you feed commercial kibble) and give him/her opportunity to go.

#### Tip #8

Try leaving a piece of clothing that you have recently worn with your dog. Your scent may help to keep him/her calm. Favorite stuffed animals may also help calm your dog. Even an old shoe might help. Dempsey loves to carry shoes around and sleeps with his nose in them. Make absolutely sure your greyhound would not be destructive of these items or if there is the possibility they might ingest one.

#### Tip #9

Exercise!! Increase your dog's amount of exercise- a tired dog is a sleeping dog! And exercise is good for you, too! I know that in the morning, it can be difficult to increase exercise and still allow the recommended 2 hours before/after feeding. Do the best you can. (Here is where obedience classes help, you can just practice commands as extra exercise!).

#### Tip #10

Are there cues that signal your departures? Mess with these. Carry your keys around and jingle them, carry your purse around, put your shoes on, put some make-up on (but don't leave!). I sometimes shower at night and sometimes in the morning- just to confuse

Dempsey. I put my make-up on at work and don't blow dry my hair very often. Dog's pick up on these cues and try to predict when you'll be leaving. Dempsey used to sit on the couch with pure panic on his face when I got out of the shower in the mornings.

#### Tip #11

Try leaving the TV or radio on when you leave your dog behind. The noise can help keep outside noises at a minimum and also be comforting to your dog. I quickly learned that Dempsey didn't like being alone in the dark (weird dog) so I leave a light or TV on when I go somewhere at night.

#### Tip #12

I make sure that the volume on my answering machine is off when I leave. When I am home and it goes off, Dempsey gets excited. It is probably confusing to dogs to hear their owner's voice, but not be able to find him/her!

#### Tip #13

Does your dog like toys? Leave several out each day, but vary them day to day so he/she gets different ones each day. Do not leave toys out if there is danger your greyhound would eat all or part of it.

#### Tip #14

Keep a journal. Since Dempsey's main problem after his anxiety had decreased some, was pooping every time he was left alone, I had to vary his diet and when he ate. Keeping track of everything he ate, when, how much, etc and writing down messes/getting into things, etc really helped me pay attention to what I was doing.

#### Tip #15

Do you have access to a webcam? Stick it out of reach of your dog and have it record while you are gone. Usually, if the dog is going to do something, it is within the first 30 minutes or so of departure. Actually being able to see what your dog is doing might give you some insight into what to try.



#### Tip #16

If all else fails, do not be afraid to ask your vet about medication. Dempsey was on Clomicalm for about 5 months. One month's supply is about \$35. After about 4 months, I cut the dose in half and after another month, he was completely off of it. He showed no side effects whatsoever from the Clomicalm. If you do decide to use this medication, expect up to a month or two to see effects. If Clomicalm doesn't work, there are other medications available. Rescue Remedy is another thing to consider and is safe as well (available at GNC). Our holistic vet gave us a combination of Bach remedies and this seemed to help as well. If you are not satisfied by the response from your vet, go on to another one!



**Bedding/Sleeping:** Provide your greyhound with as soft a bed as possible (better yet, multiple soft beds!). Greyhounds not only love comfort, they require it. They have very little padding on their elbows and can develop a fluid condition (known as a hygroma) if forced to sleep on a hard surface.

You will be surprised at how quickly your greyhound becomes attached to you, and what a difference your presence makes to him. Do not shut your greyhound in a separate room to sleep; he will much prefer to sleep in the same room with you. He'll feel more secure and less likely to cry or cause damage.

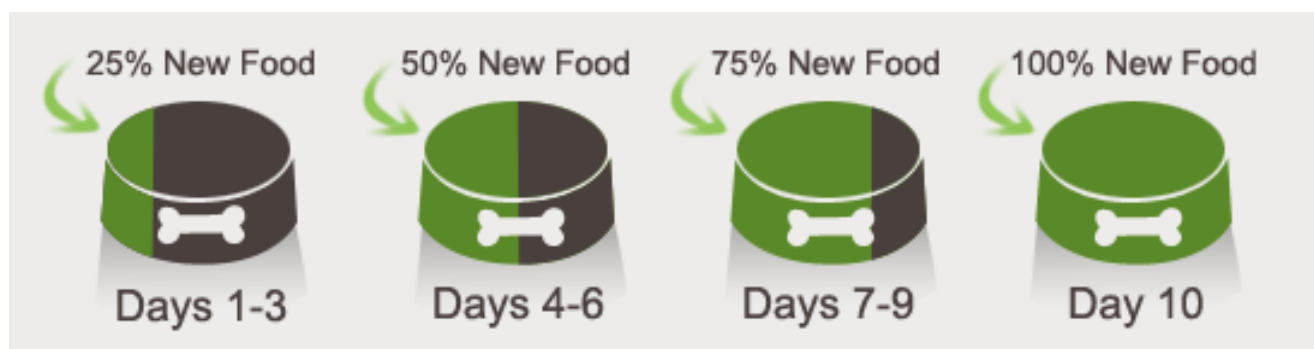


**Stairs:** Likely your greyhound has never had to go up or down a flight of stairs. He may find them intimidating at first. He will learn, but you must be patient with him.

If you don't have another greyhound to demonstrate and help teach your new dog how to navigate stairs, you may help him by placing his feet one at a time on the stairs; and with your body firmly behind so he or she cannot back down, then proceed up the stairs one step at a time, giving lots of encouragement along the way. Going downstairs may require a little more muscle, as

your dog may want to take all the stairs in one jump. Hold on to the collar and allow him to take only one step at a time. In a few days, with patience, he will soon navigate them on his own.

**Diet:** We recommend a high protein, grain free dry food (a higher quality dog food than most grocery store brands) with real meat as the first ingredient. At the GPAH kennel we feed Kirkland-Nature's Domain Turkey and Sweet Potato, available at Costco. It is a good quality food at an excellent price. If you plan to change to a different kibble, gradually add the new food to the old food for 10 days to allow his system to adjust, as shown below. But for the first 2-3 days after you adopt, use only the food provided on adoption day. Adding a change in food too early can cause tummy upset as the dog is already experiencing some stress in the new environment.



If you're curious how your dog food stacks up, or want to research a quality brand, many popular dog food brands are reviewed and analyzed at [www.dogfoodadvisor.com](http://www.dogfoodadvisor.com)

Dry kibble helps keep teeth and gums healthy, but you may add a little warm water to his kibble. Greyhounds may also enjoy a spoonful of plain yogurt stirred into the dry food; this helps with digestion and reduces gassiness. Cooked or steamed vegetables, plain canned pumpkin (not the pumpkin pie mix), skinless chicken breast (without the bone!) are also good additions, and you may experiment with adding these in small amounts to the dry food.

Some greyhound owners feed a raw food diet that may help with allergies and digestion problems. Many websites can be found on the subject.

Regarding treats for your greyhound, any high quality cookie or biscuit made in the USA is recommended. Please don't ever feed treats made in China! They also enjoy C.E.T. Chews which do double duty by helping to clean the teeth.

**What weight should my greyhound be?** Start by feeding your greyhound 4 cups per day, (2 cups in the morning and 2 cups in the evening). Watch your greyhound's weight and make adjustments from there as necessary. A healthy physique is generally characterized by a slight definition of the last two or three ribs.



**Muzzling:** Your greyhound began wearing a muzzle at the time he started wearing a collar. He was always muzzled while racing and often wore one in the kennel where he lived. Muzzling is not cruel and can serve a multitude of purposes.

Newly adopted dogs should be muzzled whenever they are introduced to children, other dogs (large and small), cats and other pets. He should also be muzzled any time you are not in the immediate vicinity to supervise the situation until you are sure everyone is going to get along. If your greyhound exhibits aggressive, shy, nervous, territorial or anxious behavior, muzzling is the best option until your dog learns to trust you and know what is expected of him.

Muzzles can also be used to restrict your dog from exhibiting undesirable behaviors such as counter surfing, chewing, and general destructiveness when left unattended. It can also control the licking and biting of sutures or stitches after surgery. Insert a stool guard, and it will eliminate the consumption of feces while outdoors (a delicacy for some!). Competitive greyhounds that nip and bite other greyhounds and dogs while running should be muzzled as a precaution against such behaviors (just remember that if ONE dog is muzzled, ALL dogs should be muzzled). For safety, it is recommended all greyhounds be muzzled if more than one is riding together in the car.

Responsible use of a muzzle can be a very useful tool and it will help you achieve positive results early so that ultimately you shouldn't need to use it in the future!





**Grooming:** There are four points to grooming a dog: coat, ears, nails, and teeth. Greyhounds are shorthaired dogs who shed little if kept indoors. Bathing can be with any mild, conditioning shampoo as often as you feel is required. Usually a bath every month or two is enough if you are brushing regularly. Frequent brushing will help to lessen any shedding. We suggest a rectangular rubber grooming mitt such as a Zoom Groom instead of a brush.

The outer ears can be cleaned with a Q-Tip or cotton ball and mineral oil or an ear cleaner specifically made for dogs. If your greyhound's ear is full of black gunk and smells bad, it may be time to see the vet.

Keeping your greyhound's nails trimmed can be your greatest grooming challenge. You will need dog nail clippers and styptic powder to stop the bleeding if you accidentally clip the quick. Clip off only the part of the nail in front of the quick. Another great option is to use a dremel. It's a bit easier to do, and most greyhounds tolerate it well if you introduce it to them slowly. Always be sure to muzzle your greyhound just in case you accidentally clip the quick. If you find it too difficult to trim his nails, take him to your vet where they would be happy to do it for a small fee.

**Corns:** If your greyhound starts limping or holding up his paw while standing, one of the first things you should do is check for corns. Corns are hard, painful areas which form on the pads of some Greyhounds. They are typically circular in shape and have a hard core that projects up into the pad causing a great deal of pain for a greyhound when standing, walking, and running. Corns can vary in size and location and can also appear in multiples. The exact cause is still unknown but they seem to be most prevalent and almost exclusive to greyhounds.

Although there isn't a cure for corns, some corns do permanently disappear after treatment or on their own. For chronic or reoccurring corns, regular maintenance is the best way to ensure that your dog stays as pain-free as possible. The fastest and easiest way to help



relieve the pain of corns is to cushion it. Special booties, such as a Thera-paw bootie, can be worn to protect the sensitive area of the pad while walking on soft and hard surfaces alike. Dremelling or filing the corn flat will help relieve the painful pressure on the inside of the pad. Unfortunately, in time, the corn will return along with the pain. This method provides only temporary relief but is a skill that can be learned and done at home.

Shelling or hulling out the corn is a more extensive method of removal and one that should be done exclusively by your veterinarian. Removing more of the corn embedded deep within the pad, it allows for a longer period of temporary relief than other methods, without the expense and stress of surgery. For more information on greyhounds and corns, there is a facebook page dedicated to it. Visit [www.facebook.com/groups/greyhoundswithcorns](https://www.facebook.com/groups/greyhoundswithcorns)

**Exercise:** At the track, greyhounds are accustomed to racing every 3 days. However, as greyhounds get older, their exercise needs diminish. Basically, the younger the dog, the more exercise it will require. Several walks a day is usually all the exercise most greyhounds will require. If you have a fenced in yard, this will take care of most of your greyhound's exercise requirements. We strongly advise against going to public dog parks. A greyhound's thin skin, prey drive and competitive nature is most likely an accident waiting to happen. NEVER exercise your greyhound in extremes of temperature.



**Heartworm & Flea Prevention:** Dogs are often infected when mosquitoes carrying heartworms bite him and pass on heartworm larvae into the tissue. The larvae mature as they travel through the tissue and eventually end up in blood vessels within the lungs, and finally into the heart causing heartworm disease. Your greyhound **MUST** be kept on heartworm preventative year round and have an annual heartworm test. Heartworm preventative can be prescribed by your vet.

Flea and tick prevention is also important but greyhounds are sensitive to many medications so be careful what you choose to put on him. Don't ever use a flea collar on your greyhound. Regular flea collars work by releasing their flea-killing chemicals onto the skin of the dog, which is then absorbed into the dog's bloodstream. Most breeds can have their livers/kidneys filter these toxins out. But a greyhound's liver/kidneys do not work that fast, so the toxins continue to build up possibly causing severe illness or death. Once a month flea and tick repellents (like Frontline or Advantix) work fine.

Several products are now on the market that combine flea and heartworm prevention. Sentinel is one of these products and it works well on a greyhound. Please, however, do not use Trifexis on your greyhound as it is too strong and many cases of seizures and aggression have been reported.

**Martingale Collar:** Greyhounds cannot wear a standard buckle collar like other breeds. Your greyhound's head is the same circumference or smaller than his neck and he needs a special collar. When adjusted properly, this collar (known as a martingale), will prevent his head from slipping out of the collar. Your greyhound also requires a 4 foot lead (leash) with a heavy-duty clasp. Both of these items are provided during adoption. For the well-being of your greyhound, please keep the collar with the rabies tag and GPA Houston ID tag on him *at all times*.

**How a Martingale Collar Works:** A martingale collar is a special type of dog collar that helps a dog stay comfortable while being completely secure on their leash. A martingale collar is made with two loops. The large loop is placed around the dog's neck and adjusted to fit comfortably. The leash is then clipped to the D ring on the small loop. When the dog tries to pull their head out of the collar, the tension on the leash pulls the small loop taut, which makes the large loop smaller and tighter on the neck, preventing escape.

When adjusted properly, the dog is never choked; but the collar stays snug around the dog's neck (just behind the ears) until the pressure is released.

The problem with a standard buckle collar is that, for the collar to be tight enough to keep from slipping over the ears when pulled, it must be uncomfortably tight all the time. The martingale collar allows the dog to wear a comfortably loose collar that is only tight when it needs to be tight. The martingale should be adjusted to the point when you can fit 3 fingers between the buckles of the control loop.



© Classic Hound



**Dental Care:** Even though your greyhound has had his teeth cleaned prior to adoption, it is very important that they be kept clean, as plaque will begin to build-up and result in infection. If plaque is built up on your greyhound's teeth, have the teeth cleaned by your vet. The more you do at home, the less that will have to be done by a veterinarian and the better health for your greyhound.

Greyhounds are famous for bad teeth. Plaque and tartar seem to build up easily on their teeth, causing bad breath, bleeding gums, pain when eating (and often loss of appetite as a result), tooth and bone loss, and worse. Bacteria from mouth infections can move into the dog's bloodstream and go on to attack the dog's internal organs. Regular dental care can add up to five years to your pet's life and will improve the quality. Depending on the condition of your greyhound's teeth, chewing on safe rawhides, frozen turkey necks or C.E.T.® chews may be enough (always with supervision). Your dog's teeth may require brushing with dog toothpaste every day or one or more times a week. Brushing is still the gold standard, but don't be discouraged if you cannot provide this type of care. There are many other options.



*Brushing your dog's teeth is the single most effective way to prevent dental disease.* Tooth brushing does not happen overnight. It requires time, patience and training, just as housebreaking or "sit", "stay" or "come". Daily brushing is required to improve dental health. Brushing every other day will help *maintain* the dental health in its current state.

Dog toothbrushes work better than human toothbrushes as they are better shaped for a dog's mouth. A finger brush is also available and some dogs prefer this method. We recommend C.E.T.® toothpaste or toothpaste made especially for dogs. **\*NEVER** use human toothpastes. It could be fatal to your dog!

Chlorhexadine Oral Rinse: This is as easy to use, powerful, and proven plaque fighter. This antibacterial rinse is soothing, refreshing and pleasant-tasting solution.

C.E.T.® Chews: This is a rawhide chew that is coated with the C.E.T. Dual-Enzyme system that activates the natural anti-bacterial mechanism found in the saliva of dogs.



### How to brush your pet's teeth:

1. Plan a particular time of the day to brush the teeth and incorporate it into your daily routine (e.g., just before you shower, when you brush your teeth, before or after feeding).
2. Approach your dog from the side and **NOT** face to face.
3. For large dogs such as greyhounds, kneel on the floor next to him or her.
4. Let your dog smell the toothpaste that's on the brush.
5. Gently lift the lips at the front on one side to reveal the canines and incisors. Brush them slowly and gently for a few seconds, then stop, let your dog lick the toothpaste if it wants to and give lots of praise!
6. Repeat this routine daily until the dog accepts and learns to enjoy the procedure.
7. Then start brushing the front teeth on the other side as well gradually including the premolars and molars into the routine.

It is important to make this an enjoyable experience for both you and your dog.

## CRATING YOUR GREYHOUND

**A pet owner's guide to the dog crate:** People are often uncomfortable with the idea of confining their pet to a crate. However, when used correctly and humanely, crating can offer many advantages.

A crate can be a "home" for the pet – his own secure place – and the sense of confinement is comforting for most dogs. For the pet owner, the crate is a way of preventing inappropriate behavior so that the dog may be left home alone without worry.



### **Is it Cruelty- or kindness?**

As some pet owners see it: "It's like a jail. it's cruel. I'd never put MY dog in a cage like that!" If this is your first reaction to using a crate, you are a very typical pet owner. As a reasoning human being, you really value your freedom. And, since you consider your pet an extension of the

family, it's only natural to feel that closing him in a crate would be mean and inhumane, would probably cause him to resent you, and might well result in psychological damage.

*As the dog sees it:* "I love having a room of my very own; it's my 'security blanket' and the closed door really doesn't bother me." If your dog could talk, he might tell you that the crate helps to satisfy the "den instinct" and that he is not afraid or frustrated when closed in. He would far rather be prevented from causing trouble than be punished for it later.

**What kind of crate is best?** The most practical crate for a greyhound is a dual door, metal wire crate such as Midwest Life Stages, at least 48x30x33" that allows the dog to be able to stand and move around comfortably. This style allows better air circulation and enables your dog to see his surroundings.

**Why use a crate?** A dog crate, correctly and humanely used, can have many advantages for both you and your pet. With the help of a crate, you can:



- enjoy complete peace of mind when leaving your dog home alone;
- housebreak your dog more quickly by using the close confinement to establish a regular routine;
- effectively confine your dog at times when he may be over-excited or ill;
- travel with your dog without many of the risks associated with unfamiliar surroundings. (Even if you don't intend to travel with your dog, the possibility of an evacuation in our area is always possible. In that event, your dog may be required to travel or be housed temporarily in a crate.)

**Use – but don't abuse:** The use of a dog crate is NOT recommended for a dog that must be confined during the day AND at night. If the dog must be left alone for extended periods of time, such as all or much of the day while the owner is away at work, school, etc., the dog must be well exercised both before and after crating and given lots of personal positive attention. A dog that is crated during the day MUST be allowed complete freedom at night (including sleeping near his owner). A dog that must be crated during the night MUST be allowed freedom during the day. There is an exception: at the very beginning, crating is needed for housebreaking and adjustment to a new home.

Crate or no crate, any dog constantly denied the human companionship it needs and craves is going to be a lonely pet – and may still find ways to express anxiety, depression, and general stress. The goal of crating is to use only as needed initially and eventually have your dog out and a part of the family (but if your dog prefers the crate, it's ok).

**How to use it:** Most retired racing greyhounds are already familiar with the crate and adjust to a crate in the home environment rather quickly. However, if the dog resists the crate initially, the following guidelines may be of help. Place the crate in a location where the dog will feel part of the human family. Encourage the dog to investigate, luring him inside with treats if necessary. A crate pad, comforter or dog bed should be placed on the floor of the crate. Continue this pattern, encouraging him to use the crate as much as possible and shutting the door briefly while you are nearby. Expect to meet moderate resistance with consistent firmness and authority. As soon as you feel confident that the dog will remain quietly in the closed crate you may safely leave him alone. Begin alone training right away by leaving your greyhound for short periods and gradually increasing the time he is left alone. Give him a toy or safe treat (such as a Kong stuffed with kibble and peanut butter), and be sure to remove his collar – don't leave anything around his neck that might become caught. Make it very clear to children that the crate is NOT a playhouse but a "special room" for the dog.

Unfortunately, a crate may not always work, although it is always worth a try. There are always those animals that do not tolerate this form of confinement. If, despite every effort at positive conditioning and firmness, a dog is obviously frantic or totally miserable when confined to a crate, forcing him to use one is indeed inhumane and can result in a real physical or psychological injury. A *reliable* greyhound savvy obedience trainer may be of assistance at this point. GPA Houston can assist you in locating such a trainer.

## THUNDERPHOBIA AND FIREWORKS

Not all greyhounds exhibit a fear of storms and fireworks, but some do. Here are some tips from our friends at Greyhound Crossroads.

**Thunderphobia and Fireworks:** Stimuli that elicit fear include rain, lightning, thunder, strong winds, and possibly changes in barometric pressure and static electricity as well as the loud booms from fireworks. This fear may then induce one of more of the following signs:

- Pacing
- Panting
- Trembling
- Hiding / remaining near the owner
- Excessive salivation (ptyalism)
- Destructiveness
- Excessive vocalization
- Self-inflicted trauma
- Fecal incontinence

**DO NOT PARTICIPATE** – if you jump up, stress out, and worry about your greyhound every time you hear fireworks or a thunderstorm, it will make him more stressed. Do not react! Don't rush to get meds or a storm coat, tighten up on the leash (unless you absolutely have to). Don't start talking frantically to the greyhound or try to rush the greyhound to another place. Take a deep breath and sit there very calmly.

**Stay Positive-** Your greyhound will sense if you get angry and stressed because neighbors are setting off fireworks and will get more stressed too. Practice saying "This is really good! This gives me a chance to practice helping my greyhound and myself stay calm" instead. Keep it in perspective, it is just a storm, it is just some kids having fun with fireworks. It is NOT the end of the world or even a serious problem. If you stay sane, your greyhound is more likely to also. If you blow it out of proportion so will your greyhound.

**Do not accidentally reward your greyhound's stressed behavior** – if you tell a greyhound it is a "good boy" when it is freaking out, pacing and acting fearful, it will think that is the correct behavior and the one you want. Better to ignore the behavior entirely than to reward it. Be careful about petting the greyhound to try to calm it down for the same reason. Petting the greyhound to calm it down in a scary situation rarely works and often escalates the fear. Reward the calm behavior you want not the pacing, whining, and destructive behaviors you don't.



**Give the greyhound an alternative behavior.** Teach him to “down” on a greyhound bed on command and “stay” before the fireworks or thunderstorms come. Many greyhounds learn “go to bed” at night, which also works. Once he knows these commands very well, ask him to do it during a storm instead of pacing back and forth. When he is lying there concentrating on staying on the bed he won’t be able to focus as much on the storm. Sit near him calmly and remind him to “stay” frequently if he gets up. Many greyhounds work themselves up into a panic pacing back and forth. Interrupting it early and giving them an alternative behavior often helps them calm themselves down.

**Teach The Greyhound How Walk on Leash Properly.** A greyhound that is fearful and likely to bolt should not be wandering around at the very end of a 6 foot leash (too dangerous). NEVER EVER use a flexi leash!!! Six feet of leash allows a greyhound that bolts to get up a lot of speed that can hurt him or his owner or allow him to get away. Better to hold the leash short and give the greyhound just enough leash to walk beside you. A timid greyhound shouldn't be leading the walk where he is the first to meet scary things either. That is too much to expect. The human should confidently lead the walk, decide the direction and be in control of the greyhound at all times so the timid greyhound can relax and enjoy the walk. Greyhounds should be taught that bolting is never allowed for any reason and even the fattest squirrel has to be left alone. Make sure your greyhound understands that it is expected to stay in one place-right beside you.



**Make it a party** – throw a party for yourself when a storm or fireworks start. Break out some special human treats and eat them in front of the greyhound. Smile! Hum an upbeat tune! Turn on music and dance. If you have greyhounds that aren’t afraid of the storm, feed them some treats. Play with the other greyhounds and have a ball. Pay no attention to the scared greyhound, but reward him with treats and fun if he even attempts to interact with you or join the party. If your fearful greyhound will take treats, then save your best treats for “Thunderstorm treats”. Even if he isn’t comfortable enough to join the party, your joy WILL affect your greyhound positively.

**Walk your greyhound** -if you can do it safely in your house or in a fenced yard. Not a good idea to go outside in lightning, of course. Helping him safely expend that stressed energy in a calm, controlled manner can help your greyhound calm down. Asking a greyhound to walk politely beside you in heel position without bolting around, will give the greyhound something



to concentrate on other than the storm. Greyhounds generally focus on one thing at a time and a nice heel is better to focus on than a scary storm. This may be part of the reason that a storm coat works on some greyhounds. They focus on the tight, odd feeling coat rather than the storm. It may also be why the coat stops working for some greyhounds when they get used to wearing them.

**Exercise your greyhound-** Greyhounds don't have a lot of energy. A greyhound that is already tired will fall asleep faster and have less energy to put toward pacing panting and other stress behaviors. We know which day fireworks are most likely to be set off already. With radar weather on our cell phones we can know when storms are headed our way. If one or the other is likely, make sure your greyhound has exercised that day. Throw a ball, drag a toy on a rope, or go for a walk to tire your greyhound out before the storm gets there. Exercise your greyhound every day for a few days before and after New Year's and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July if fireworks go on for days. Exercise also releases calming, happy chemicals in the brain, so helps in more than one way.

**Give the greyhound a safe place to go.** If the greyhound feels safe in the bathtub or in a basement or walk in closet and it helps the greyhound calm itself, it is OK to let the greyhound go there. Often greyhounds like the comfort of a crate so give that a try. It may be why we don't see as much thunder phobia at the racetracks as we do in retired racers. Often a room without windows or with curtains closed makes them feel safer. Keeping the lights on may make the bright flashes of lightning less obvious. Playing music or turning on a TV may help mask the noise of the thunder. Again, don't rush to do these things in a panic. Slowly and happily do them while yawning and acting as if you don't have a care in the world.

**Be your greyhound's fearless leader.** Be sure your greyhound doesn't feel like he has to protect you or take care of you on a day-to-day basis. Make sure he knows you are in charge and a calm, capable leader every day, so he will trust you to take care of all situations. This is especially important for fearful greyhounds. A timid greyhound feels more comfortable with rules and structure he can depend on. He needs to know what is expected of him and that someone will step in and tell him what to do when he gets nervous or something bad happens.

**Use calming signals** such as yawning, sitting, lip-licking, or lying down to help your greyhound calm down.

**Look for alternative therapies that have worked for others** Rescue Remedy, valerian, Rock Rose, Pheromone therapies such as DAP collars, acupuncture, acupressure and melatonin have helped some greyhounds and might be worth a try. Just taking the edge off can help your greyhound learn to cope better with a storm.

**Understand that greyhounds are not human** so using methods that work with a child may not be successful. If you teach your greyhound what to do and how to act in one room of your house don't expect him to automatically know that the same rules apply outside, at PetSmart or even in another room in your house. Greyhounds need to be taught in new situations and new places for them to really understand that it does help to lie down calmly on a bed and wait for the storm to pass and that it is never appropriate to throw themselves around on leash and panic.

**Stay away from the "cant's" and "wont's"!** "I can't do that" or "That won't work because it didn't work before". Keep at it! Remember that each interaction has an effect on the greyhound and you are influencing him positively or negatively EVERY time. It doesn't matter if you see improvement every time or not. Practice saying "This is good!" and welcome every

opportunity to help your greyhound overcome his fear. Stay away from negativity like “My greyhound won’t ever do that”. If he won’t now, he just needs to be taught how.

**Try Storm Shirts and wraps** help some greyhounds and are always worth a try in extreme situations. Be careful how you use them though. Don’t leap up and run to get the coat at the first thunderclap, while yelling at your significant other to see where it was left the last time. Better to sit there and get the coat calmly without frantically searching for it. Do it between booms if possible. Put it on the greyhound while singing a happy tune and thinking happy thoughts. This isn’t the “end of the world” shirt this is the “happy” shirt and all is well when we are putting on the shirt and wearing it. You are not “saving” your greyhound’s life by putting on this shirt and it is NOT an emergency situation.

**Expect positive results.** Greyhounds are masters at reading our emotions. Try to actually BE HAPPY rather than just pretending you are happy when fireworks go off. Love thunderstorms too! Believe the greyhound will be fine and happy! Negativity will affect your greyhound. It is hard to be happy when worried about your greyhound, but you MUST put the worry aside for your greyhound’s sake. Thinking “this won’t work” will make it so. Even if you aren’t successful the first time you try, be happy over every small step in the right direction and every small success.

**Don’t automatically rule out medication** in very severe cases. It isn’t a permanent thing. The goal is to take the edge off the greyhound’s fear to get it to a workable level so you can help him overcome it. Gradually, he can be weaned off the medicine as he gets better.

Working through fearful behavior takes time and there is rarely a magic bullet that changes it overnight. Each greyhound is different and each owner is different. It is possible to change your own reactions, but you can only influence your greyhound’s fear. By changing your reactions you will see your greyhound improve.



## What is my greyhound trying to tell me and Why does my greyhound do that?

- By Marcia Herman

**Vocalization:** Your new greyhound is like other dogs in most ways, but there are certain things that greyhounds do or "say" that other dogs may not. When I write "say", I mean just that. Greyhounds, who from now on will be referred to as "greys", often vocalize. This behavior is sometimes puzzling, if not downright frightening, to many new grey adoptive parents. I will try my best to describe the various sounds greys make and then explain what your new grey is trying to tell you.



**Barking:** Usually, the first thing you will notice about your new grey is that it is quiet. Most new owners swear that their grey doesn't know how to bark. This is not true. Once your grey relaxes and begins to adjust to life in a home, it will indeed bark if the occasion calls for it. Many people jump out of their skins the first time they hear their grey bark. It may well sound like the "Hound of Baskervilles" or perhaps the shriek of the coloratura soprano.

One thing that is really puzzling is that greys often will not bark when they want to go out to relieve themselves. If you are lucky, your grey will stand at the door and whine. But usually, it will stand quietly at the door, expecting you to notice and let it out or take it for a walk. If no one comes to take the grey out, it will often relieve itself at your doorway!

Some greys bark when a person or other dog comes to the front door. Some bark only at strangers. This behavior is entirely individual and depends on the way your grey reacts to certain people. Some barking is very ominous, yet it may be accompanied by tail wagging.

**Moans and Groans:** Before you hear the first bark, you are likely to hear moans of satisfaction when your grey lies down on a soft bed. Or some grunts if you happen to pet your new friend in a particularly satisfying place on its body, often behind the ear (or even IN the ear!).

**Teeth Snapping and Clicking:** Then there's the snapping or clicking of teeth. No, your new grey is not trying to nip at you and rip your flesh; it is telling you how happy it is to be with you. Sometimes, it means, "How about a cookie?" or "Let's go!" And, if it clicks or snaps at your hair or throat (like my girl does), it means, "I love you". This click/snap is actually a replacement for the lick; you will find that most of these dogs aren't lickers. Also, sometimes they yelp, bark or make throaty noises while clicking. I call the whole thing "snorfling" because that is often how the sound ends up.



**Growling:** This is a scary thing to hear. The depth of a grey growl can make one's hair stand on end. Greys don't growl often. When they do, it can mean several things, depending on the rest of the body language.

First, the growl can mean that you have invaded a personal space. You may have disturbed it while it was sleeping or dozing. Greys often sleep with their eyes open. You may think the dog was awake, but it was in fact not awake. The phrase "Let sleeping dogs lie" certainly applies here. The fact that your grey has always lived among many other dogs and now does not may emphasize its newfound freedom from crowding. It may well just wish not to be crowded any more.

Second, some greys may growl when hugged or when a hand is placed on its body for too long a period of time. Some other dogs will object to this invasion of space, but it just seems worse when your up-till-now sweet greyhound does it to you or, more often, to your child. Some will growl when you want your grey to do one thing and it wants to do another! But that's just general dog behavior. That is not "greyhound only" behavior.

Third, any dog, grey or not, will growl when it is leaned on, stepped on, or poked at too hard. Many times a grey will have a racing injury or an ailment that no one could possibly know about without knowing the dog's complete history (next to impossible) before being adopted. Often, a visit to the vet will uncover an injury or disease, such as arthritis, which may have been brought on by past broken bones or running.

Fourth, but very common, is the play growl. This is very important to remember because, as you already know, greys are not barkers. They seem to communicate more with a throaty assortment of sounds than the common barks. All my greys (I've had 5 so far) have growled in combination with the "Let's Play" stance of rump up in the air, elbows on the ground and tail wagging happily. Some will growl, wag their tails and stomp their feet when they want your attention. When they are running around the yard racing with each other, some will growl. There is no meanness here. It is part of the race.

Fifth, even more interesting, some will growl while making a talking sound or "Err-ow, wow wow". It sounds exactly like a combination growl and a serious attempt to speak in vowel, mostly "a" and "o" and "ow" and "ooh". This is a serious attempt to have a conversation with you. Enjoy it and respond!

**Whining:** Oddly, whining is part of the conversation. It is often a precursor to the greyhound solo or chorus, coming up in the next section. Of course, it also means "I'm unhappy", "I'm lonely", or "I hurt".

**Singing/Sirens:** When you have a few dogs living with you, you will probably discover that your dogs will form a chorus, ranging from soprano to bass. This can start out of the blue or may be brought on by hearing a siren or other dogs howling. This can be very frightening when heard for the first time, but when it becomes common, it's great fun for everybody. People who don't live in the house where this is happening but hear it from the street REALLY get nervous. To them, the singing/howling sound like a death knell. But those of us "in the know" smile and tell them "All is well".

## FIRST AID

*This is by no means a substitute for veterinary treatment.* If there is any doubt whether or not you need to seek medical treatment for your greyhound, err on the side of caution and seek help immediately!

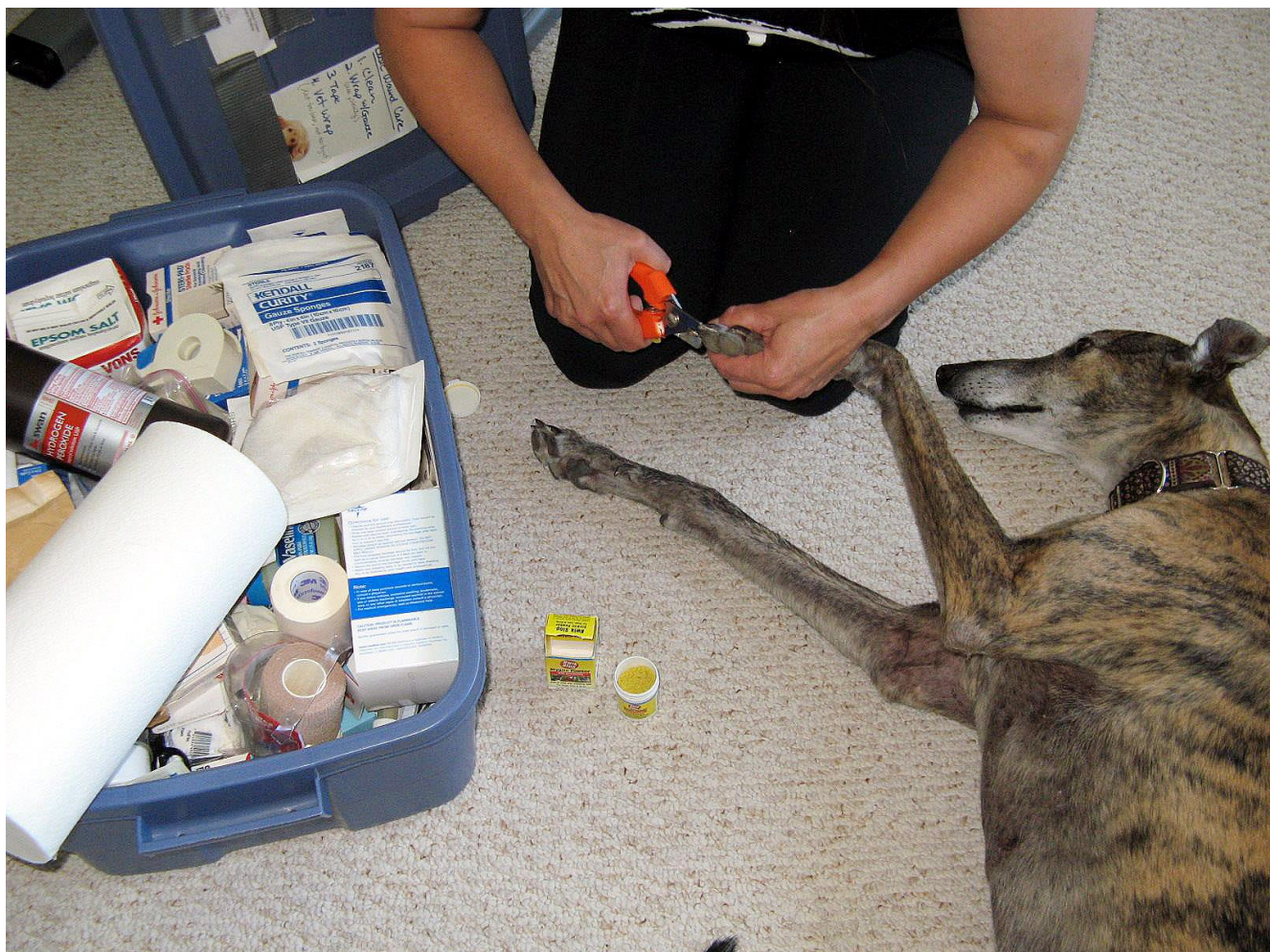
Below is a suggested list of things to have on hand in case an emergency situation arises. It's best to be prepared *beforehand* than to find these things in a panic.

## EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

Always have the phone numbers of your veterinarian, close emergency hospital and poison control center where you can find it quickly in case of an emergency. Keep a copy on your refrigerator, programmed in your cell phone, in your wallet and in your car. When planning a trip, look up the name, phone number and address of an emergency animal hospital in the city to which you will be traveling. Sometimes, emergencies happen away from home.

**Animal Poison Control Center**  
**Pet Poison Helpline**

1 888.426.4435 (a fee will be charged)  
1 800.213.6680 (a fee will be charged)





*An example of a first aid kit*

## FIRST AID KIT

One or two plastic shoe boxes or tackle boxes will work great as an emergency kit. Make two. Keep one in your car and one at home. Once a year, go through your first aid kit and replace the items that have expired.

- ✓ FIRST AID BOOK (GPAH recommends First Aid Basics by Greyhound Gang)
- ✓ COTTON BALLS
- ✓ BETADINE SOLUTION
- ✓ GAUZE SPONGES
- ✓ CLING ROLL GAUZE
- ✓ VET WRAP
- ✓ CAST PADDING
- ✓ BANDAGE SCISSORS
- ✓ VINYL OR LATEX GLOVES
- ✓ LARGE SYRINGES
- ✓ TWEEZERS
- ✓ WHITE POROUS TAPE
- ✓ ALCOHOL SWABS
- ✓ LARGE BEACH TOWEL OR BLANKET (with the help of someone, gently roll injured dog onto blanket, each person holding the blanket like a "hammock" to transport)
- ✓ KY JELLY
- ✓ TONGUE DEPRESSORS
- ✓ WASH CLOTHS
- ✓ Q-TIPS
- ✓ SALINE EYE SOLUTION
- ✓ DAWN DISHWASHING LIQUID (for bathing your dog after skin contamination)
- ✓ ANTIBIOTIC OINTMENT/SPRAY
- ✓ STYPTIC POWDER
- ✓ THERMOMETER
- ✓ NAIL CLIPPERS
- ✓ PLASTIC BAGS FOR SAFE DISPOSAL OF CONTAMINATED SUPPLIES
- ✓ PAPER TOWELS
- ✓ HAIR CLIPPER
- ✓ MUZZLE
- ✓ TURKEY BASTER (to administer peroxide)
- ✓ HYDROGEN PEROXIDE 3% (to induce vomiting, check with your vet for dosages)
- ✓ BENADRYL (call your vet and check for proper dosages beforehand)



## **POISONS**

Below is a list of poisons that can be potentially toxic to dogs. Some of these items may cause slight discomfort such as diarrhea while other items could result in death. Some of the poisons may be the whole plant, while others may be just the seeds. It is recommended that you do research on the plants that you have in your yard and any plants that you intend to add to your landscape. Also, "Natural" products may pose a threat to your dog. Just because it may be "natural" does not mean it is safe.

Not only should you take caution in your own home, but also to be aware of the potential dangers of poisons while on a walk, at the park, visiting other people's homes, or when you have houseguest. Ask houseguests to keep their personal items such as purses, luggage, and medicines out of your greyhound's reach and/or keep their bedroom door closed.

## **FOODS**

- Alcohol (all alcohol beverages, methanol, isopropyl)
- Almonds
- Apple seeds
- Apricots
- Avocado
- Broccoli (in large amounts)
- Cherry pits
- Chocolate (all types)
- Coffee beans & grounds (caffeine)
- Figs
- Garlic
- Grapes
- Hops (used in home brewing)
- Macadamia nuts
- Milk
- Moldy/spoiled foods
- Mushrooms
- Nutmeg
- Onions
- Peaches
- Pear seeds
- Plum seed/pit
- Potato (leaves & stem, peeling and unripe green potatoes)
- Raisins
- Rhubarb leaves
- Sugar free items with Xylitol (such as gum or candy)
- Tomatoes (leaves & stems and green tomatoes)
- Yeast dough

## **PLANTS**

- Azaleas
- Lobelia
- Bleeding Hearts
- Buttercups
- Daffodil bulbs (the bulb, not the flower)
- Dieffenbachia
- English Ivy
- Iris
- Lantana
- Lily of the Valley
- Sago Palms
- Mistletoe & Holly
- Oleander
- Rhubarb
- Wisteria
- Yew

## **COMMON HOUSEHOLD ITEMS**

- Antifreeze
- Batteries
- Cigarettes & cigars
- Cleansers & disinfectants
- Fertilizers
- Fuels
- Furniture polish
- Laundry bleach
- Matches
- Mothballs
- Pennies
- Perfume
- Rat poison/bait traps
- Shampoo
- Human Toothpaste & Mouthwash

### **What to do if your dog is poisoned:**

1. Immediately remove your pet from the area, and make sure no other pets (or kids!) are exposed to this area. Safely remove any remaining poisonous material from their reach.
2. Check to make sure your pet is breathing normally and acting fine otherwise.
3. Collect a sample of the material, along with the packaging, vial, or container, and save it – you will need all that information when you talk to your veterinarian or to a Pet Poison Helpline expert.
4. Do NOT give your dog any milk, food, salt, oil, or any other home remedies! Also, never inducing vomiting without talking to your veterinarian or Pet Poison Helpline – it may actually be detrimental or contraindicated to induce vomiting!
5. Don't give hydrogen peroxide to your pet without checking with a vet or with Pet Poison Helpline first.
6. Get help. Program your veterinarian phone number, along with an ER vet and Pet Poison Helpline's phone number (800-213-6680) in your cell phone so you will always have immediate access to help.

Keep in mind that the prognosis is always better when a toxicity is reported immediately, so don't wait to see if your pet becomes symptomatic before calling for help. It's always less expensive and safer for your pet if you call immediately. Remember there's a narrow window of time when you can decontaminate (induce vomiting or pump the stomach) in the case of a poisoning!

## HURRICANE PREPARATION

Living in the Gulf Coast area, it's not a matter of *if* a hurricane develops but *when*! ***The time to plan for a hurricane is before hurricane season begins, not when a hurricane is a threat to your area!***

Just as you plan for your family and your home, you need a plan of action for your pets. At the onset of hurricane season, there are four main things that need to be done.

- Set up an evacuation plan.
- Buy and store things that will be needed in the event of a hurricane.
- Put together a first aid kit (see previous first aid section).
- Talk to your vet about Dramamine, sedatives, and snake bite kits.

If you live in a mandatory evacuation area, it's best if you leave *early*. Traffic has been known to come to a standstill and remain that way for hours. In order to conserve gasoline, you may be forced to turn off your engine or air conditioning. The temperatures in your car will rise very quickly and could be disastrous to your greyhound(s). To repeat, if you know you live in a mandatory evacuation area, please do not wait until the last minute. Leave as soon as possible.

If you evacuate, please, please **DO NOT** leave your pet behind. You may find, upon your return, your pet has perished. **THIS CANNOT BE STRESSED ENOUGH!** If you must leave and cannot take your pet(s) with you, make other arrangements for someone to care for them. Your pet is your responsibility!! It is inhumane to leave helpless animals alone and expect them to fend for themselves. If you have multiple pets and find that you cannot safely transport all of them in your vehicle, ask family, friends or neighbors if they would mind helping you by evacuating together so one or more of your pets can travel safely in their vehicle.

Whether you decide to weather the storm at home or evacuate, there are many things to do to prepare or pack. For full information on hurricane preparedness with a checklist, visit [www.gpahouston.org/Forms\\_and\\_Information.html](http://www.gpahouston.org/Forms_and_Information.html)





## WEBSITES

### Forums/Social Media:

GPAH facebook page: [www.facebook.com/GreytPetsHouston](http://www.facebook.com/GreytPetsHouston)

Greytalk: [www.greytalk.com](http://www.greytalk.com)

### Medical:

Greyhounds with Corns facebook page: [www.facebook.com/groups/Greyhoundswithcorns/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/Greyhoundswithcorns/)

Dr. Cuoto: <http://coutovetconsultants.com/for-ownersadopters/>

Dr. Stack: <http://www.greythealth.com/>

### Merchandise:

Greyhound art:  
[www.aprilmurphy.com](http://www.aprilmurphy.com)

Martingale Collars:  
[www.2houndsdesign.com](http://www.2houndsdesign.com)

[www.classichound.com](http://www.classichound.com)

[www.houndstown.com](http://www.houndstown.com)

### Tattoo and Pedigree Info:

[www.greyhound-data.com](http://www.greyhound-data.com)

### Additional Info:

[www.greyhoundgang.org](http://www.greyhoundgang.org)



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Finding forever homes  
for retired racing greyhounds...



[www.gpahouston.org](http://www.gpahouston.org)  
[info@gpahouston.org](mailto:info@gpahouston.org)

artwork by: Lisa Kostrzynski 2016