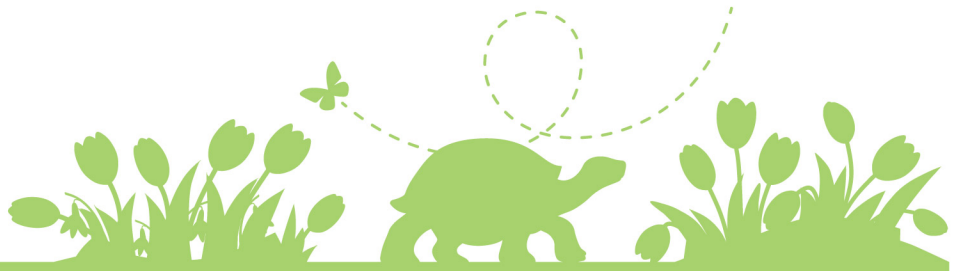




NOCO
HUMANE



SPRING 2024

PET SPECTIVE

A publication of NOCO Humane to further the compassionate, safe, and responsible relationship between animals and people.

FINDING THE PERFECT FIT

At NOCO Humane, the adoption process includes questions about a family's lifestyle and expectations for a new pet. We do this to ensure each adoption is a great fit for both the animal and the adoptive family as they embark on a new friendship. For adopters Connor and Brittany, our job was easy — they already knew that Milo would be the perfect fit.

A one-year-old yellow lab, Milo was found two months prior as a stray wandering the railroad tracks. With no collar, tags, or microchip to identify him, Milo was homeless and in need of help. What's more, he was limping with several lacerations and apparent road rash on his left front leg.

Once at NOCO Humane, Milo was examined by our Veterinary Services Team, who found that he was suffering from a fractured left limb, likely the result of being hit by a car. Even still, our veterinary professionals' primary concern was the severity of his wounds. Milo's wounds were sutured and he was placed on both antibiotics and a pain treatment plan. Staff kept a close eye on his recovery over the next several days, and while he continued to appear comfortable — walking, eating, and sleeping normally — the wound nearest to his left front elbow continued to swell and cause concern. Recognizing the likelihood of severe infection and sepsis, the veterinary staff made the decision to amputate Milo's limb.

Five days after his arrival at NOCO Humane, Milo underwent a forelimb amputation surgery. While the surgery went without complications, Milo's first few days of recovery were challenging. He was plagued by a slight infection of his incision wound that resulted in fever, and the pain medication began to upset his system. But after a few days of constant supervision by a foster family and daily vet checks at the shelter, Milo finally started to heal.

More than three weeks later, Milo enthusiastically walked back through our shelter's doors — this time pain free — and became an adoption candidate.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

It didn't take long for Milo to find a family as he was adopted the very next day. His new home was everything he wanted, except for a dog sibling that made him a little uneasy, causing him to growl and stand guard. After witnessing this, Milo's adopter made the difficult decision to bring him back to the shelter in hopes of finding him a better fit.

Milo was greeted with open arms and ear scratches by our shelter staff and caretakers who already knew him well. He was back up for adoption, but this time, it took a little longer for his new family to arrive. Knowing that his family was out there somewhere, NOCO Humane's marketing department produced a short video of Milo playing fetch and grinning ear to ear at the sound of his name. After publishing the video, Milo received lots of love and support from our social media community.

"We saw a video of Milo playing and, gosh, he just looked like the happiest dog ever," said Connor Hughes. "My wife asked me what I think and I said 'let's go get him.'" Connor and Brittany Hughes thought the world of Milo just from his short video, and they took off work two days later to meet him. "We played with him and he just melted into us."

That same day, Connor and Brittany expanded their family and adopted Milo. "We have a big backyard, and when we first got home, we let Milo out back and he just sprinted back and forth several times," said Connor. "He LOVES his ball. He'll grab it and drop it in your lap, and if you don't throw it, he'll re-grab it and put it back in your lap," laughs Connor. "We took him to PetSmart right after adopting him and walked him through all the toy aisles. We figured he would grab them all and we were ready to buy them all, but all he wanted was a ball."

Though he's still learning how to climb the stairs with only three legs, Milo is navigating life as a tripod well. Both Connor and Brittany are physical therapists and have been keeping an eye on how Milo manages with just three legs. "We want to make sure that his lone front leg doesn't get injured from holding all the front weight, but all he wants to do is RUN!"

From wandering aimlessly as a stray to running with purpose in his new backyard, Milo found home. He found his second chance. Connor and Brittany have plans to take him on adventures and let his spunky personality explore all the smells, people, open spaces, and balls this world has to offer. "His tail never stops wagging," said Connor, "he's such a happy guy."

With each wag of his tail and a gleam in his eyes, Milo found his perfect fit, proving that sometimes imperfections are the very things that make a family whole.

2024 CELEBRATION OF SECOND CHANCES CALENDAR

Still in need of a 2024 calendar? Look no further than our 2024 Celebration of Second Chances Calendar! Equipped with 12 inspirational stories, 12 coupons to local breweries for BOGO pints, financial advice from our sponsors Ent Credit Union, and ADORABLE photos, this calendar has a value of \$89!

100% of the proceeds go directly towards supporting animals in our care. Last year's calendar helped fund nearly 420 days of care at our shelter! This is more than a purchase, it's an investment in compassion, hope, and a better future for animals in your community. Scan the QR code below and receive a \$10 discount when you reserve your calendar today!

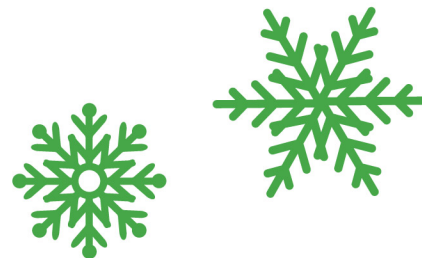


ASK THE EXPERTS

Dear NOCO Humane,

Every year, both of our pets tend to gain weight around January and February. We take our dog for walks and let our cat hang on the back patio, but these activities are short-lived given the frigid temperatures. Do you have any tips/tricks for helping our dog and cat stay fit and active when the weather outside is frightful?

— Cat and Dog Mom



Hi there!

This is a wonderful question and you certainly are not alone. The physical and mental health of our furry friends can be tricky to manage during the winter months, but while the cold weather can drive us indoors, that doesn't mean wellness has to take a break. To help with this topic, we spoke with our Behavior Supervisor Dr. Julia Brannen, and here are some tips she shared to help your pets stay active and healthy all year-long.

When thinking about enrichment and wellness for our pets, it is important to know that 1) dogs thrive best when they have a "job" and 2) cats are always practicing their hunting and stalk-pounce skills, so enrichment along those lines will almost always be a winner!

For dogs motivated by food, consider: snuffle mats or snuffle balls, clicker training, puzzle toys/feeders, slow feeders and "licky" mats. Also, entire meals can be stuffed into a Kong toy (and frozen the night before) to make meal time take longer as well as employ more effort and mental skills.

For dogs that are sniffers, consider snuffle mats or balls with a very small amount of scent on them and then air them out (remember that dog's scent detection is much greater than ours). Sniffing is a great stress reliever for dogs and gives them an outlet for their hard-wired natural behaviors. Consider doing a test with essential oils and/or hunting scents and see what your dog likes and doesn't like, what excites them and what calms them, and use the ones they like for future enrichment.

With cats, active toys tend to be a hit! Encourage self-play with aluminum foil balls, plastic lids from the milk carton, wadded up paper, pipe cleaners, cardboard boxes, empty paper towel/toilet paper rolls or cork stoppers with feathers/pipe cleaners stuck in them. Interactive play can also be fun for both of you, just remember to keep your hands and body clear of your kitty's claws as they lunge for their toy.

If you have a cat that is motivated by food, consider feeding high-interest canned food in small amounts scattered throughout the house, so that your cat has to search and find. Make it easy at first, and more difficult as their skill level increases. Clicker training is also a way to positively enrich a food-motivated cat.

For all pets - when turning up the heat to combat any cold spells that come through, your living space will be drier. Ensure your pet has access to fresh water at all times, and even consider running a humidifier to help soften the dry air. Hopefully some of these ideas will help your furry family members stave off boredom and winter weight until spring weather arrives!



SAVE THE DATE

FIRE HYDRANT 5K & EXPO

JUNE 1, 2024
Spring Canyon Park, Fort Collins



POUDREFEED.COM
1-833-NOCO-PET

FORT COLLINS

622 N. College Ave. | (970) 482-2741
6204 S. College Ave. | (970) 225-1255
2601 S. Lemay Ave. #18 | (970) 226-0277
2100 W. Drake Rd #6 | (970) 682-2585

LOVELAND

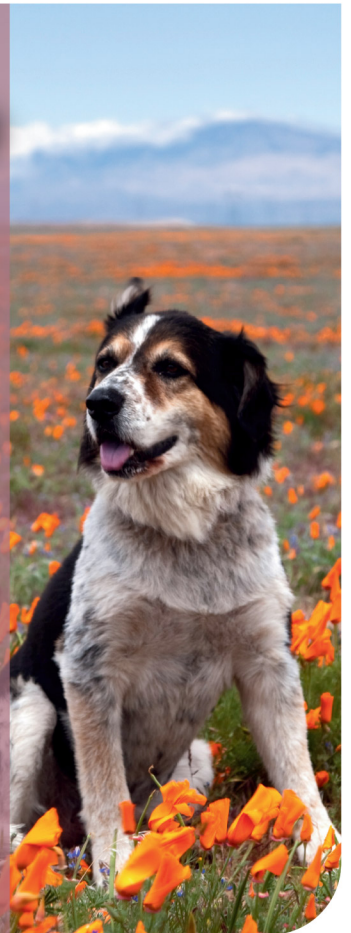
2400 N. Lincoln Ave. | (970) 800-3967

WINDSOR

516 Main St. | (970) 686-5547

Stores with a dog wash station marked with a

FREE LOCAL 2-DAY
DELIVERY ON ORDERS
OVER \$50



SAVE THE DATE

TOP CAT & TAILS GALA

OCTOBER 5, 2024
Embassy Suites, Loveland



CONTACT US

LARIMER CAMPUS

3501 E 71st St
Loveland, CO 80538
970.226.3647

WELD CAMPUS

1620 42nd St
Evans, CO 80620
970.506.9550

MISSION

To further the compassionate, safe, and responsible relationship between animals and people.

VISION

NOCO Humane is a trusted, responsive community leader, providing programs and services essential to the high quality of life for animals and people in northern Colorado.

ABOUT NOCO HUMANE

NOCO Humane is an independent nonprofit agency. We are not a division of any county or city and are not funded by any national animal-welfare organizations. We are a 501(c)(3) corporation and we are governed by a volunteer board of directors. We turn no animals away.

NOCOHUMANE.ORG