## **Indian Hills Animal Clinic**

**Excellence In Small Animal Care** 



# sehavior

# Behavior Tips About Your Puppy

By starting your puppy off on the right "paw" you can eliminate many behavior problems before they have a chance to blossom...

# HOUSE TRAINING

- Take the puppy outside to eliminate as soon as it wakes up each morning, after meals, after it drinks, after it plays, before and after confinement, and whenever it sniffs, circles or whines. You must set the pup up to win by making sure he doesn't have accidents.
- Always go out with the pup, guide it to the same area each time and happily praise
  the pup as it eliminates. You may want to teach the pup a word or phrase, such as
  "go potty", so that he will learn to eliminate on command.
- Until the puppy has not eliminated in the house for 4 consecutive weeks, he must be watched 100% of the time. Whenever he can't be closely monitored, confine the pup to a small, safe room or dog crate.
- If the pup soils in the house:
  - 1. Scold it with a loud "NO", but only if you catch it in the act.
  - Never scold after the act, and NEVER, NEVER strike the puppy with your hand or a newspaper. Nor is it necessary to rub its nose in the "mistake." Physical punishment may actually slow down the house training process.
  - 3. Thoroughly clean up the soiled area with a product made especially for pet odors and stains.

# DESTRUCTIVE CHEWING

- Chewing and mouthing are normal behaviors for all puppies. This is how they investigate their environment, get relief while teething, and entertain themselves.
- All puppies chew. A judicious amount of supervision or confinement will be necessary through the pup's first 9-12 months.
- Put everything out of reach that is dangerous, expensive, or irreplaceable. If you can't put it up, make it taste bad. Use hot or bitter tasting sprays to protect furniture, door molding, pillows, the stereo, electric wires, cabinets, etc.
- Buy a variety of safe rubber or nylon chew toys. Play with the pup and the toys as
  often as possible. A small amount of meat juice or cheese may be wiped on the
  toys to encourage chewing.
- Every time the pup chews on one of its toys, lavish him with praise!
- Do not allow the pup to chew on old socks, shoes, towels, stuffed toys or any objects which are similar to those that you don't want chewed.
- If he chews on an "off-limits" object, scold him with a loud "OFF" and immediately replace that object with a chew toy.
- Do not scold or punish if you do not catch him in the act and NEVER swat or spank the pup.

### OBEDIENCE TRAINING

Puppy socialization classes are intended to get you and your puppy started on the right foot. A large part of puppy pre-school is socialization. Puppies must learn to play with and communicate with other canines. Un-socialized puppies can develop behavioral problems later in life. Puppies in class are also introduced to basic obedience commands along with helpful information to stop unwanted behaviors from occurring, such as jumping and biting. Commands introduced are sit, down, stand, come, and walking on leash. Preventing behavior problems before they become habits is the focus of this

# WE CAN HELP WITH POTENTIAL BEHAVIOR PROBLEMS LIKE:

House training — Chewing — Biting — Socialization — Establishing Leadership — Teaching obedience - sit, lie down, stay and come — Jumping Up — Leash-Pulling — Licking — Mounting