

Defining Saved

A look at the law, good intentions, and rescue

Melissa McCue-McGrath, CPDT-KA
Author: *Considerations for the City Dog*

67 of 85

Transported into MA

Let's Think For A
Minute...



The Internet: A Weird, Weird Place



What is “Reputable Breeder?”



What Advice to Clients for Purebred Dog?

- Does health checks/vaccination schedule
- Don't get sight unseen
- Don't fall for \$10.00 Godaddy Account
- Don't go to sites with thousands of dogs
- Take the dog back for any reason
- Leave health advice and training advice to professionals in those industries
- Looking for good match
- Knows what socialization is / is not
- 1-2 breeds on premises
- Won't breed year round



What is a Puppy Mill?

- Hell on Earth
- Puppies for profit
- Large scale commercial breeding operation
- No standard of care
- Often sold on the Internet and/or pet stores



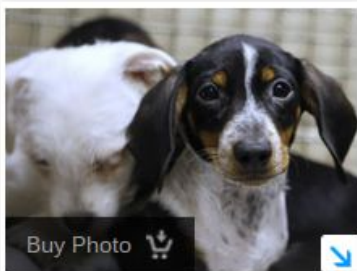
Pet Stores Turning Into Rescue Hubs



Dog rescuer ordered to appear in court

[Seth Slabaugh](#), seths@muncie.gannett.com

10:53 a.m. EDT October 27, 2015



(Photo: Ashley L. Conti/The Star Press, Ashley L. Conti/The Star Press)

f 175
CONNECT

t 4
TWEET

in
LINKEDIN

5
COMMENT

✉
EMAIL

📎
MORE

MUNCIE — A judge has ordered a review hearing in a criminal case involving bad checks written by a defunct dog rescue facility after questions were raised about the lack of restitution.

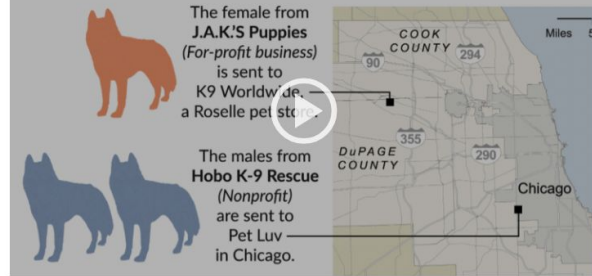
After nothing but "continuances, continuances, continuances" in the two-year-old check-fraud case against Patricia Strayer, 52, who did business as

Adopt a Lab, she pleaded guilty in June, received a suspended sentence, and was ordered to pay \$13,699 in restitution, says Dennis Rodgers, a private investigator/debt collector representing puppy broker Conrads Cuddly Canines in

Blurred Lines

Designer and purebred puppies from other states sold as rescue dogs in Chicago, outsmarting city ordinance

The puppies are separated for sale



A Tribune investigation found that a loophole in the city ordinance allows three Chicago pet stores to sell puppies supplied by rescues that are closely linked to longtime commercial dealers. Here's an example of how one out-of-state dealer provides a city pet store with purebred and designer-mix puppies.

By Stacy St. Clair and Christy Gutowski · Contact Reporters
Chicago Tribune

MAY 18, 2018, 5:00 AM | BRITT, IOWA

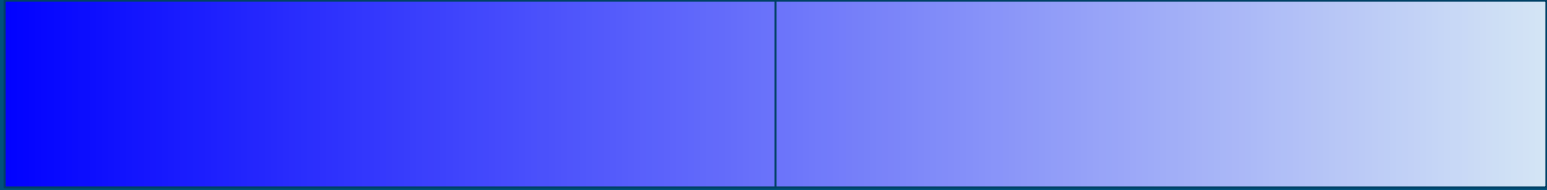
The three Siberian huskies were born Sept. 4, 2017.

They were housed together in a large, metal warehouse in this small farming community that is home to one of north-central Iowa's most prolific canine dealers.

“One puppy was delivered to a suburban pet shop with her pedigree papers.

The other two — confirmed littermates — were declared “rescue dogs” and sold to a pet shop in Chicago. With that rescue label firmly attached to their cages, the store could sell the dogs for more than \$1,000 apiece and still be in compliance with a city ordinance that bans shops from offering commercially bred pets...”

The World Isn't Binary



Puppy Mills

Good Breeders

Saved

What Does This Word Mean To You?

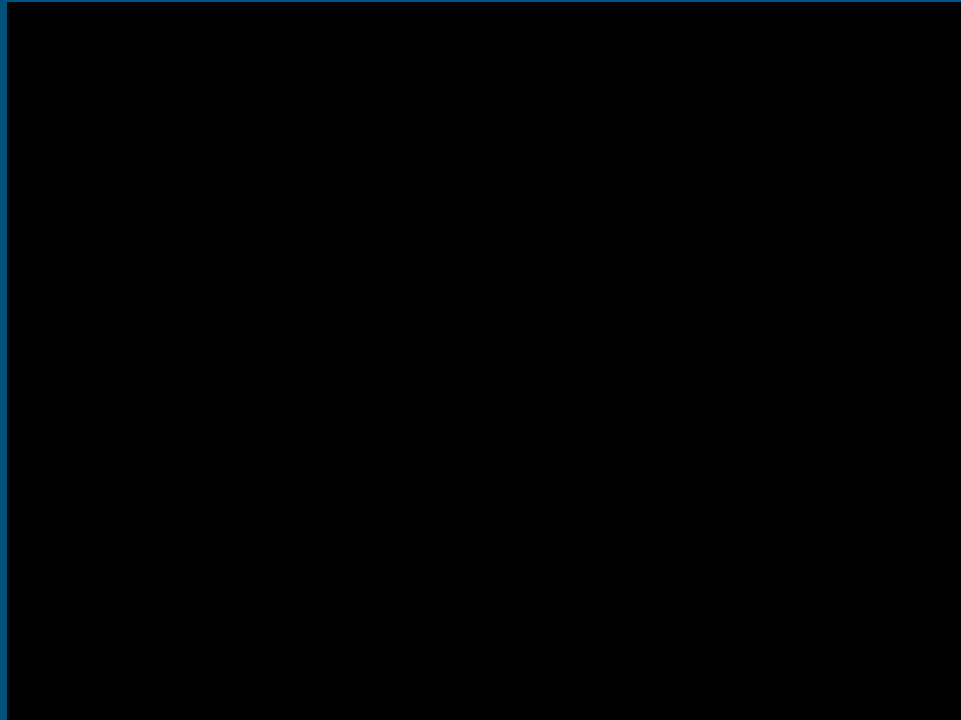
What Does This Word Mean To Your Clients?

The 90%

- 90% of dogs in many southern shelters are euthanized for no other reason than “we don’t have space” or are unclaimed.
- Emma’s chances for rescue were slim. ‘She had a very strong chance to be euthanized...90% of dogs and cats that enter some shelters never leave alive.’

-Janet Romaker, The Toledo Blade, 02/14

Al Roker's Last Chance Rescue: Animal Planet



“If It’s Yellow, It’ll Go.”

- “It gave me a look. We bonded.”
- “I like this one. The color is vivid.”
- “It’s the eye contact with me. If they give me a certain look, I know they’re a great dog.”
- 6 month old puppy: Adolescent



Did you adopt from a Petfinder shelter or rescue?

Confirm Your Adoption. >

X

petfinder

RESOURCES ^

Q

Sign In / Register

ABOUT PET ADOPTION

DOG CARE

CAT CARE

ALL PET CARE

SHELTERS & RESCUES

HELPING PETS

VIDEOS

Where Pets Find Their People

Thousands of adoptable pets & rescue animals

LEARN MORE

Somerville, MA

Find a dog

Adopt a Pet
ComTM

North America's Largest Non-Profit Pet Adoption Website

Powered by the Pet Lovers at

PURINA

petco foundation

petco

Bayer

Find a Pet

Rehome a Pet

How It Works

Adoption Info

Pet Care & Health

Get Involved

Store

Log In / Sign Up

My Favorite Pets

Adopt the Perfect Pet

from more than 17,000 animal shelters & rescues

Dogs

Cats

Other Pets

Shelters & Rescues

Location

02145

✓

Distance

50 miles or less

▼

Breed

Any

?

Sex

Any

▼

Age

Any

▼

Color

Any

▼


Size

Any

▼

Advanced Search

Search




Donate to Save Pets

Your gift to Adopt-a-Pet.com helps hundreds of thousands of pets be seen and adopted.

Donate

Special Thanks

Maddie's Fund

#ThanksToMaddie

Adopt-a-Pet.com is a proud recipient of funding from Maddie's Fund, helping to achieve a no-kill nation #ThanksToMaddie.

In Massachusetts, dogs aren't allowed in for rescue without mandatory 48 hr. quarantine.

There is no such quarantine for "owned dogs". To get around this law, dogs often trucked outside state borders and picked up at rest stops/hotels.

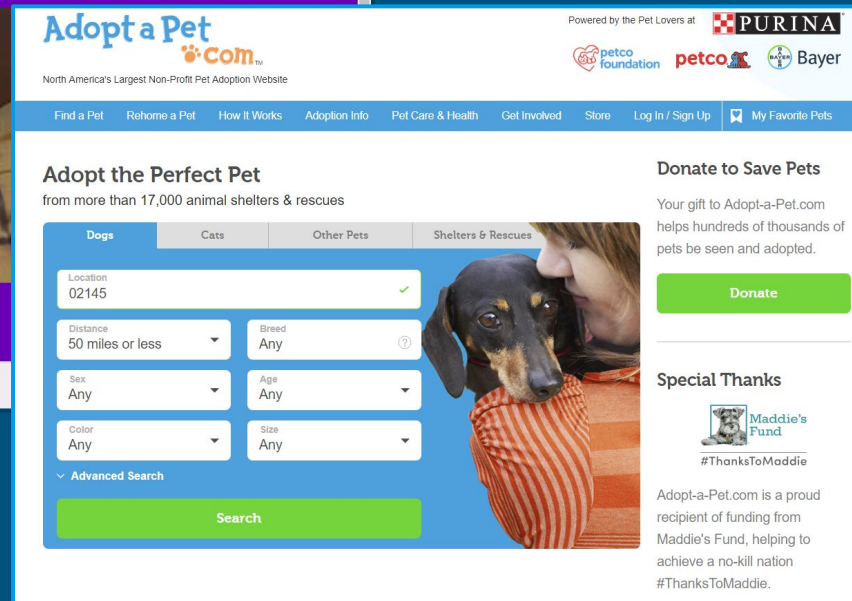
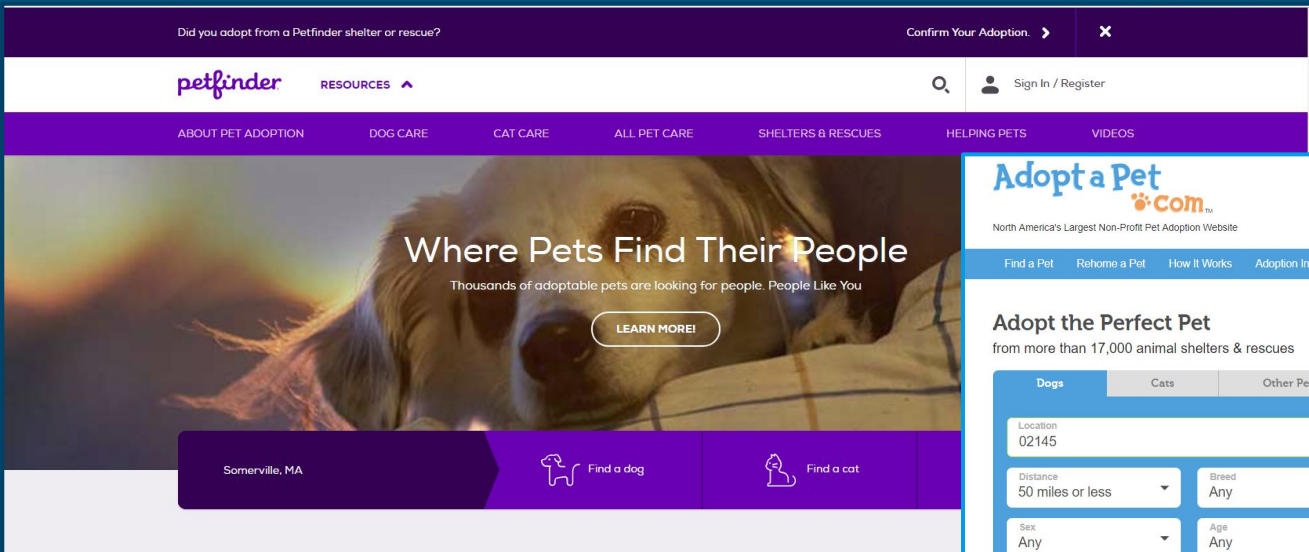
14,000 legally brought in 2012...



Let's Pretend We Are
Looking For A Rescue Dog.

Where Do You Look First?

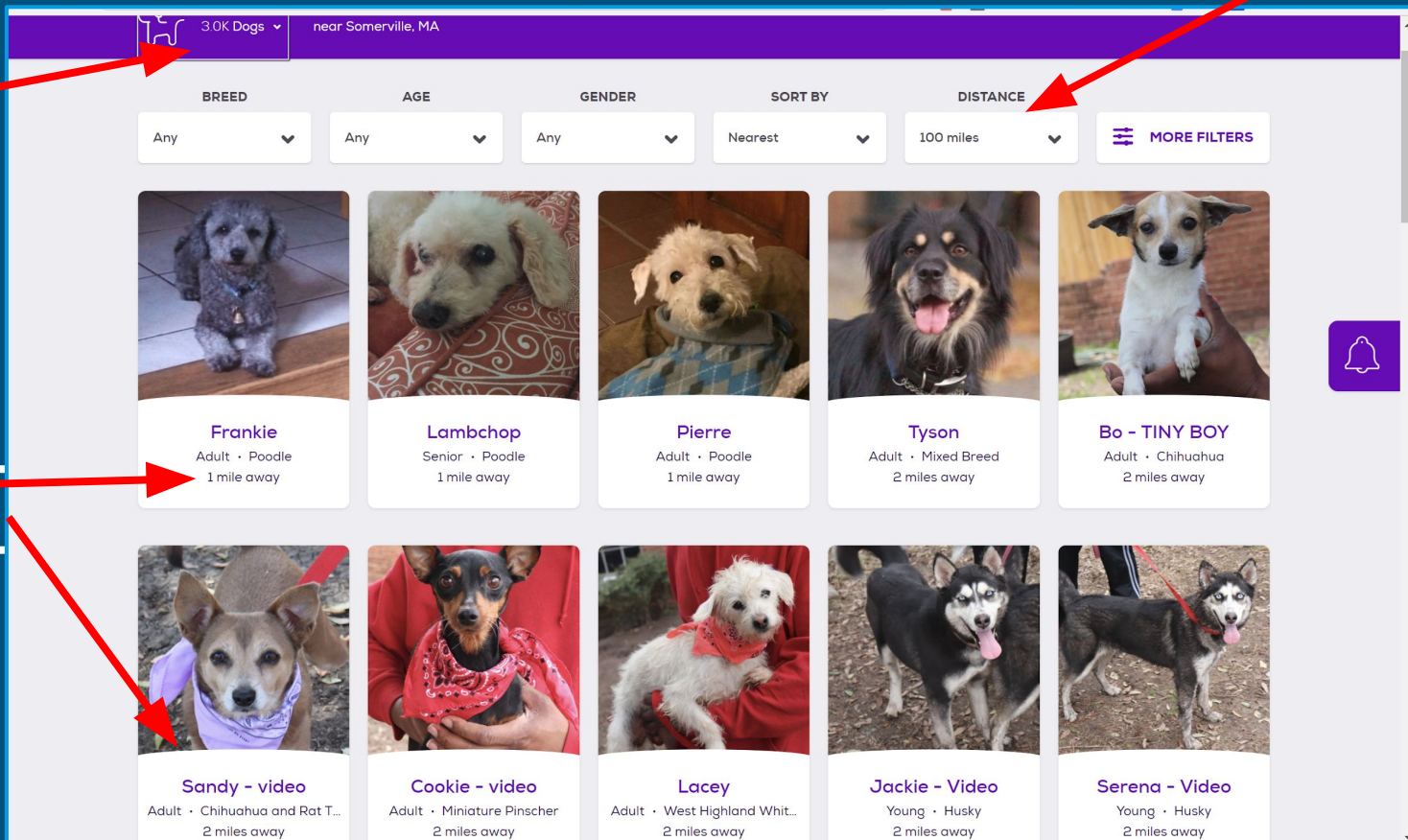




The Petfinder Loophole


100 miles Somerville

3,000 dogs



2 miles. away

Boston



Sandy - video

Chihuahua & Rat Terrier Mix • Boston, MA

Adult • Female • Small • Yellow / Tan / Blond / Fawn

About

CHARACTERISTICS
Calm, Sweet, Mature, Easy Going

COAT LENGTH
Short

HEALTH
Vaccinations up to date, spayed / neutered.

GOOD IN A HOME WITH
Other dogs.

Meet Sandy - video

Sandy is an easy going girl. She was rescued from a high kill shelter after her owner fell upon bad times and became homeless. Sandy is approx 6-7 years old. Sandy is sweet and gets along with other dogs. If you need

ASK ABOUT SANDY - VIDEO

SPONSOR SANDY - VIDEO

SHARE PRINT

Save Our Strays
Sugarland
Boston, MA

Location Address
Boston, MA

animalrescuekingdom@gmail.com

MORE ABOUT US

Look here

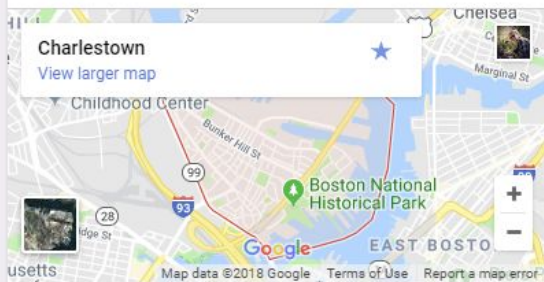
She's not here.





Somerville Rescue

Charlestown, MA



Location Address
Charlestown, MA



somervilleanimalrescue@yahoo.com



9792039620

MORE ABOUT SOMERVILLE RESCUE

petfinder

FIND A PET

RESOURCES



Sign In / Register



Somerville Rescue

Somerville, TX

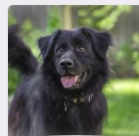
VIEW OUR PETS



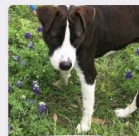
Somervilleanimalrescue@yahoo.com



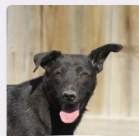
(979) 203-8620



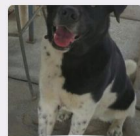
Boyd, a handsom...



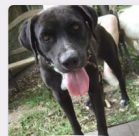
Charlie, a LOYAL ...



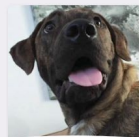
Daisy loves peopl...



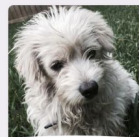
Kye, a LOVING Co...



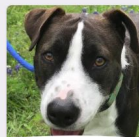
Betsy shy sweeth...



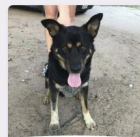
Louie



Cracker Jack is a ...



Charlie, a LOVING...



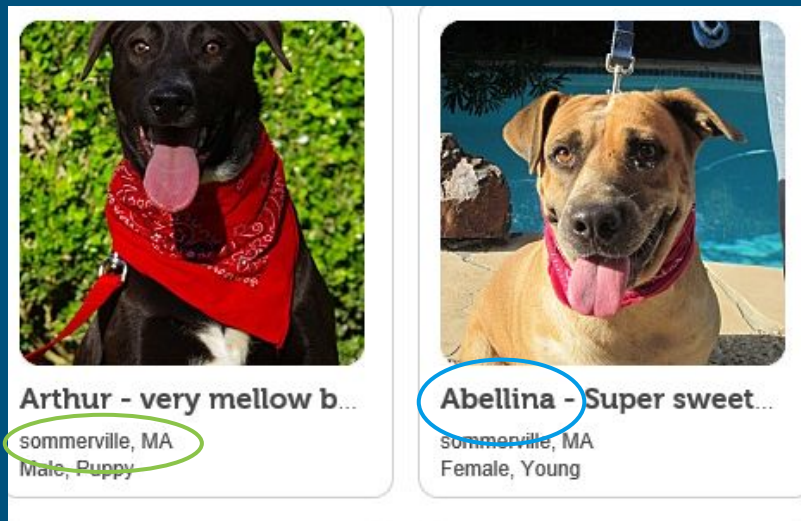
Yogi a great famil...



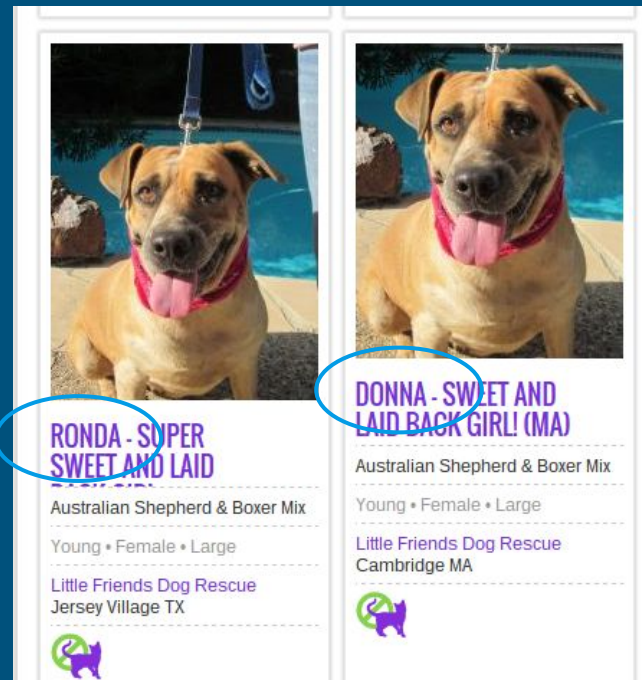
4 more pets available

MEET THEM

Red Flags



Pro Tip: If a rescue (or breeder) can't spell the name of the town they are fake-operating in, it might be indicative they aren't on the up-and-up.



Pro Tip: If the same dog is listed under many names, breeds, locations, it's not here.

Page 1 of Petfinder 3/8/2018

40 Dogs

First three: Poodle Rescue (Legit)

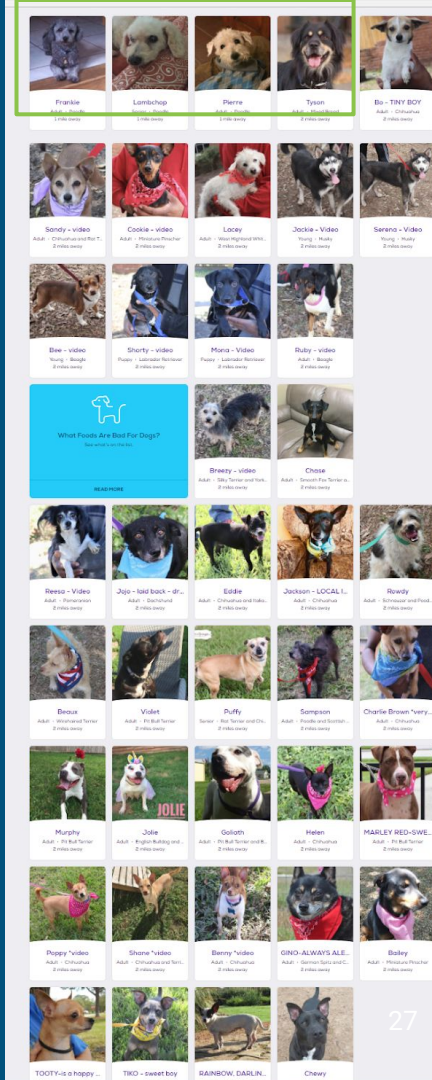
Next One: Kitty Connection (Legit)

Next 11: Sugarland, TEXAS

The rest: Houston, TX; Hempstead, TX; Louisiana

Local dogs start on **page 3**

A MA animal shelter: Presentation at local school. Most kids said "I have a rescue dog. None acquired from shelter 2 miles from school. All acquired by driving to CT.



Physically and Behaviorally Sound for Adoption

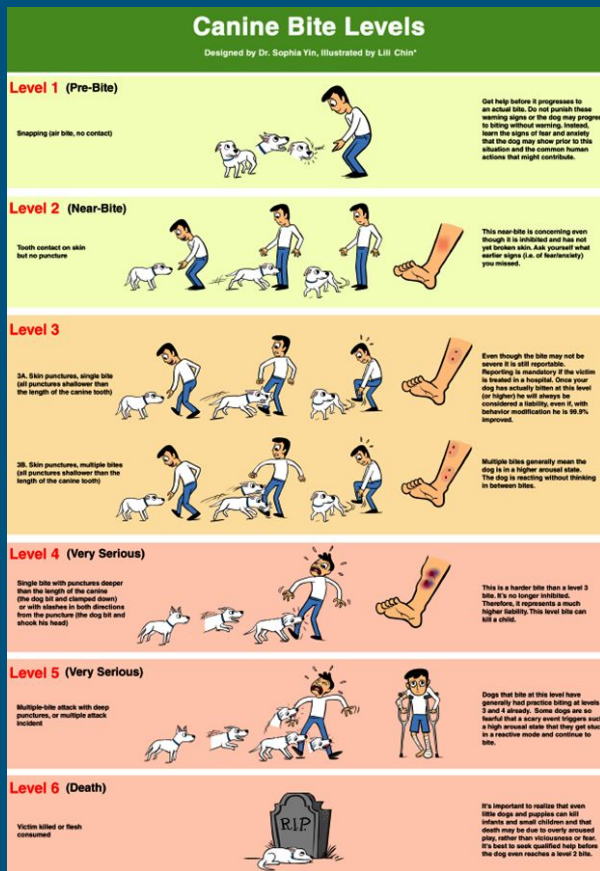


Video: Athena/Abby



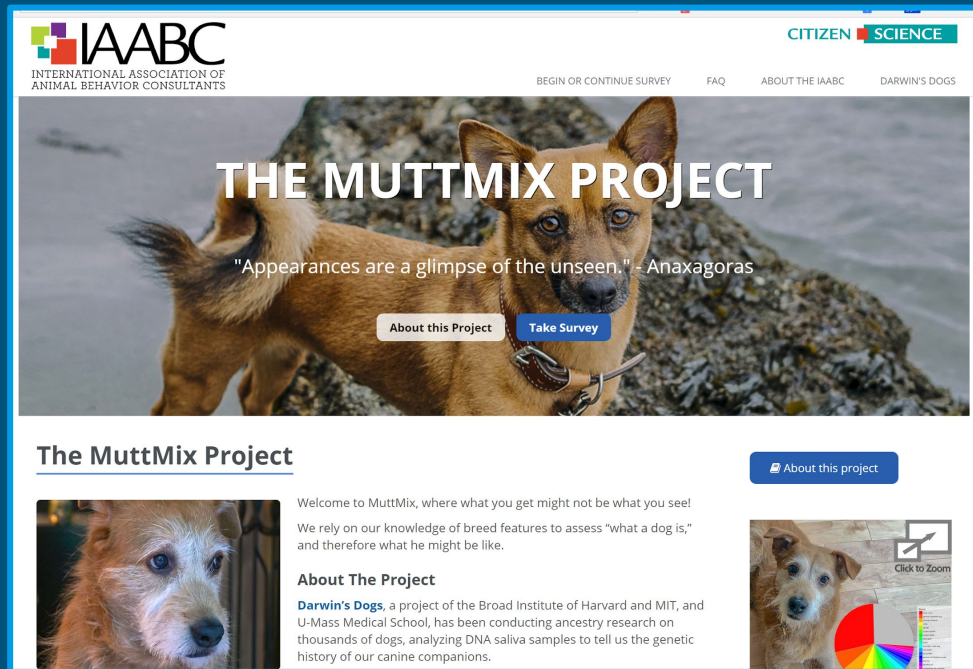
https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1&v=vvMz_ANq4qw

The Bite Scale: Learn It. Use It. Teach It.



What is “Saved?”

- Define Saved
- Empty cage?
- In a home?
- Successfully placed?



The screenshot shows the homepage of the MuttMix Project website. At the top, the IAABC logo (International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants) is on the left, and 'CITIZEN SCIENCE' is on the right. Navigation links include 'BEGIN OR CONTINUE SURVEY', 'FAQ', 'ABOUT THE IAABC', and 'DARWIN'S DOGS'. The main banner features a photo of a brown dog on a rocky shore with the text 'THE MUTTMIX PROJECT' and a quote: 'Appearances are a glimpse of the unseen.' - Anaxagoras. Below the quote are two buttons: 'About this Project' and 'Take Survey'. A secondary section titled 'The MuttMix Project' includes a sub-header 'About this project' and a paragraph: 'Welcome to MuttMix, where what you get might not be what you see! We rely on our knowledge of breed features to assess "what a dog is," and therefore what he might be like.' Below this is a section 'About The Project' which states: 'Darwin's Dogs, a project of the Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT, and U-Mass Medical School, has been conducting ancestry research on thousands of dogs, analyzing DNA saliva samples to tell us the genetic history of our canine companions.' To the left of this text is a close-up photo of a dog's face, and to the right is a circular genetic ancestry chart with a legend and a 'Click to Zoom' button.

From My Case Files

- Magic Balls!
- Noise sensitive: Busiest street in city.
- “Want dog happy. Didn’t expect to talk about drugs”.
- “Good with kids”
- Elderly Couple



Rocky:

- 8 y/o Pomeranian from South Carolina.
- On PetFinder as “happy dog, completely vetted. Walks well on a leash and is ready to be your best friend!”
- Came off the truck with worms, collapsed trachea and pneumonia. No teeth. Spent over \$2,000 at emergency hospital 1st week.
- Shut down, anxious
- Belly Band - peed on everything, including other dog
- Barked non stop
- Referred to Vet Behaviorist: more \$

Roxy's Story: Mix of Transport/Local Rescue

- Met in CT day before first of 4 snowstorms that crippled Boston.
- Dog in backseat with 8 year old child
- Dog was “scariest dog we ever had.”
- Shiba Mix. Emotional weight.
- Multiple bites
- Afraid to fail dog.
- Increasingly common scenario.

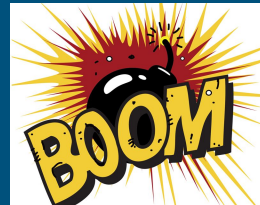
Reputable Rescue?



67 of 85

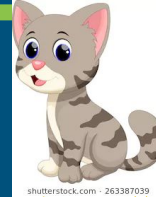
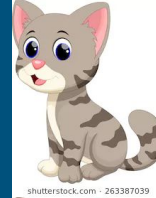
Transported into MA

Stress Threshold

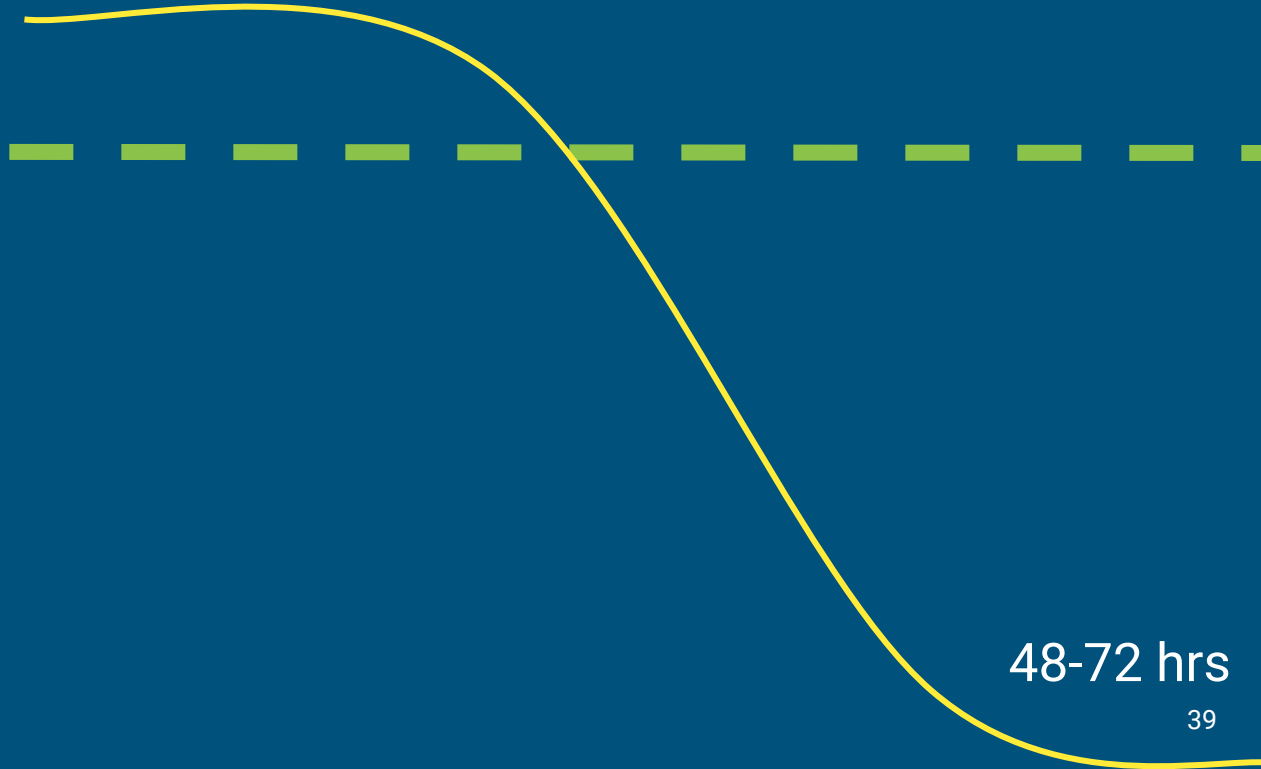


Trigger Stacking: Stress Thresholds

Stress Threshold

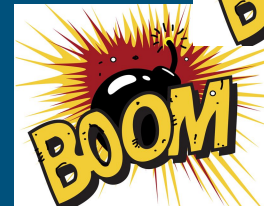
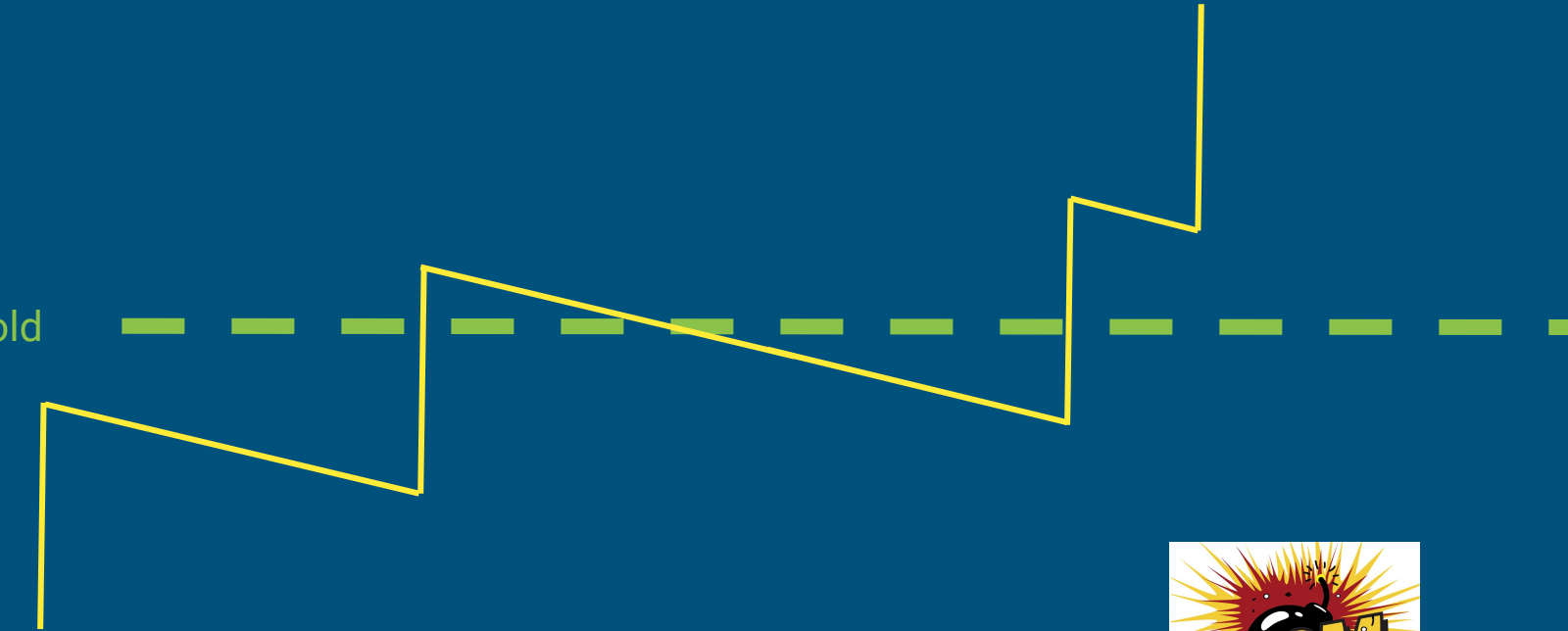


Stress Hormones

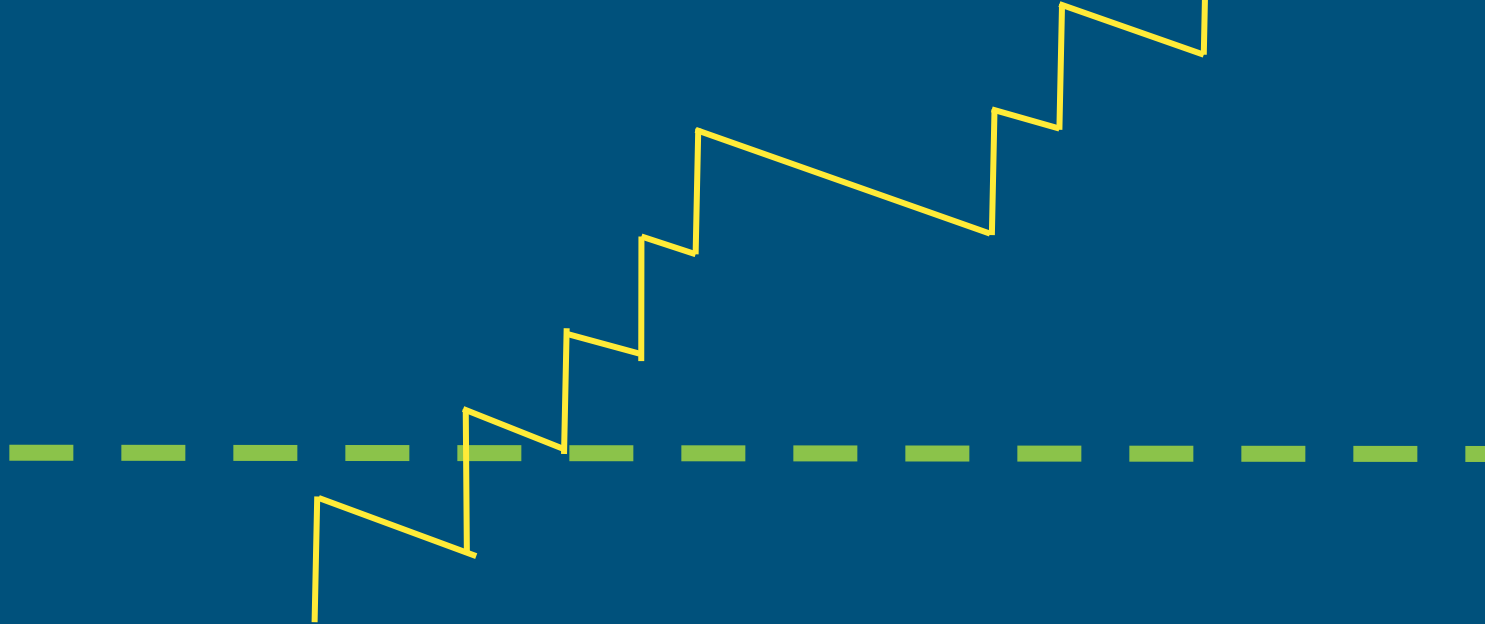


48-72 hrs

Stress Threshold



Stress Threshold



I can explain it in Dog,

...but you only listen in Human.

Gaspode, the Wonder Dog

Moving Pictures

--Sir Terry Pratchett

The canine LADDER of AGGRESSION

Dogs communicate their discomfort with a situation and a desire to end an interaction by using visual cues. These are depicted on this ladder of aggression. Recognizing the lower-rung gestures is important so a perceived stress or threat to a dog can be removed sooner.



Source: Shepherd K. Ladder of aggression. In: Horwitz D, Mills DS. *BSAVA Manual of Canine and Feline Behavioural Medicine*, 2nd ed. 2009.

Solutions

This is why we're here, right?

Let's Talk Body Language

- Dog Trainers discuss body language A LOT
- Can you tell what these dogs are saying?





What is this dog feeling?



This one?



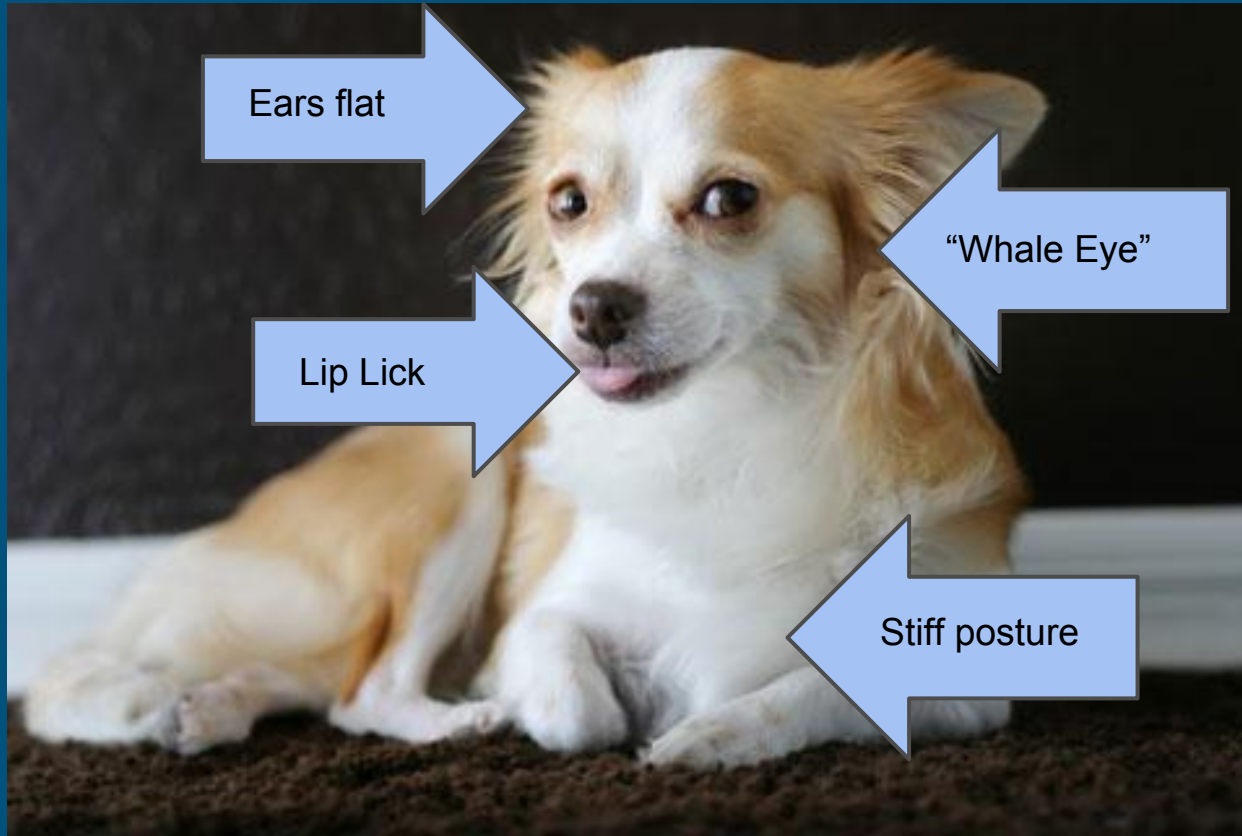
This guy?



What about these two?



Client: “Aw, he’s sticking his tongue out. Doesn’t want picture taken!”



What Advice to Clients for Rescue Dog

- Does health checks/vaccination schedule
- Don't get sight unseen
- Don't fall for \$10.00 Godaddy Account
- Don't go to sites with thousands of dogs
- Take the dog back for any reason
- Leave health advice and training advice to professionals in those industries
- Looking for good match
- Knows what socialization is/is not
- ~~1-2 breeds on premises~~
- ~~Won't breed year round~~



What Can Trainers Do?

- Submit letters to CPDT, Karen Pryor, IAABC, VSA, etc. to give CEUs for implementing programs with shelters/rescues
- Donate your time: Educate & Volunteer (specifically socialization, stress, mental stim, target, body language)
- Help put together a handout of reputable resources in the area
- Teach stress signals/greetings/behavior assess in shelters / in rescues

How Can You Work Outside The Box?

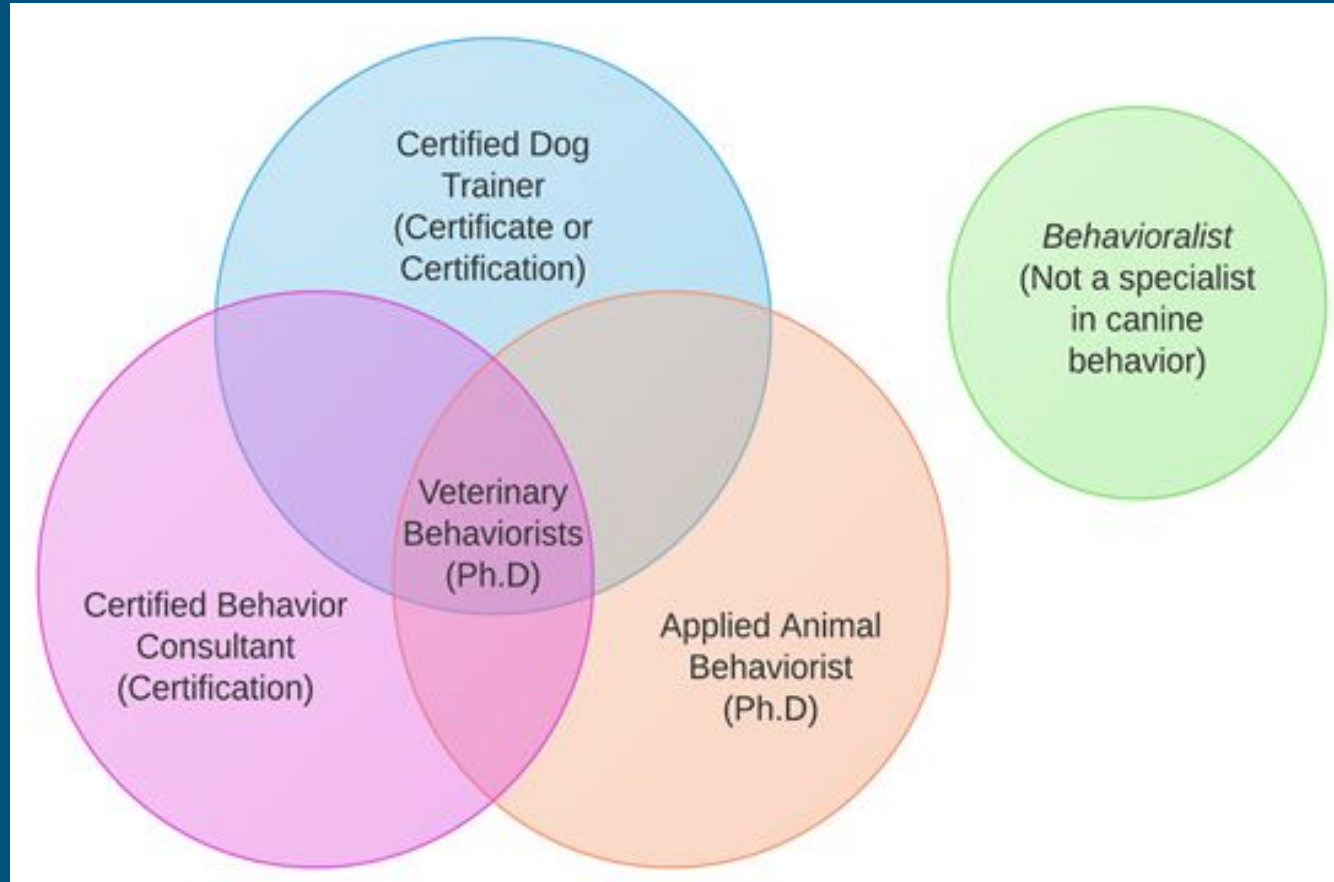
- ACOs - less \$ for local dogs?
- TNR? Sanctuary for unadoptable dogs?
- Report loophole rescues (BBB / Dog Merchants)
- Reach out to Petfinder /AAP to place TRULY local dogs first
- Socialization
 - Begins in utero: Pregnant dogs in foster ASAP
 - Window closes at 16 weeks
 - 6 month old dog isn't a puppy...it's a teenager

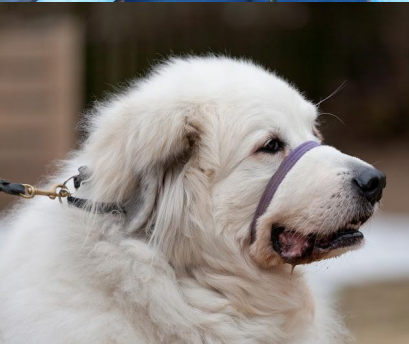
What Can Rescues/Shelters Do?

- Stop labeling breeds
- Fine?
- Transparent!
- Resources
- Follow up
- Report
- Partnership
- Connect with PF and AAP
- Not binary!



How To Refer:





Melissa McCue-McGrath

CPDT-KA

Co-Training Director of [New England Dog Training Club](#)
(all dog club & oldest obedience club in the country)

Author: [Considerations for the City Dog](#)

Blogger : [Car Talk's new FIDO Blog](#)

[ConsiderationsForTheCityDog.com](#) | [MuttStuff.blogspot.com](#) | [CarTalk.com](#)

