

Canine Courier

Volume 16, Issue 1

Jan/Feb

Damaging Chews

Dr. Kevin Fitzgerald, DVM, AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB
april 24, 2015

Be Selective about the Toys You Give Your Dog

Dogs are tremendously "oral" creatures and they experience much of the world through their mouths. Depending upon the breed, some dogs can exert 150 to 450 pounds per square inch with their jaws.

As a result, we need to safeguard our dogs from chewing excessively (with their overdeveloped masseter muscles of the jaw) upon objects that can damage the gums and teeth. Neglected and bored animals can also perform destructive chewing that can damage oral structures and teeth.

continued on page 2

Dog Allergy Symptoms: What's Causing Them and How to Treat it

Caroline Coile, AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB
may 19, 2015

He's scratching and [licking](#), keeping you awake, ruining his show coat, and giving himself a handy excuse for breaking that stay. It's driving you crazy—imagine how he must feel.

We most often associate [allergies](#) with sneezing and respiratory problems in people, but in dogs, allergies are most often associated with the skin and gastrointestinal (GI) tract. About 10 to 15 percent of dogs with food allergies will have both skin and GI signs, and about 20 to 30 percent of dogs with food allergies will also have [itchy skin](#) from other non-food allergies.

GI signs are most often seen as:

- Loose stools, with an average of three a day
- [Vomiting](#) and belching
- A skin sign is usually itchiness, and it appears the same as itchiness due to other allergies

According to one recent study, nearly 8 percent of dogs presented to a referral dermatology practice had food allergies, which represented about a third of all the dogs presented there with allergic skin disease.

"Ears and rears" is sometimes used to refer to the characteristic location of itchiness, though it's actually a little more widespread than just those *continued on page 3*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1** Damaging chews
- 1** Dog Allergy Symptoms
- 3** Calendar/Presidents Message
- 4** Brags

Objects that can hurt your dog's teeth include rocks, bricks, large branches, cage wires, some rawhide chews, and even toys, depending upon their composition.

Many chew toys or treats can fracture teeth, resulting in the need for endodontic therapy, restorative procedures, or extraction. Rawhide chews can damage teeth in anxious, aggressively chewing dogs or if manic chewing begins before the rawhide has a chance to soften.

Ask your veterinarian about which toy she recommends for your dog. It will depend upon your dog's breed, age, and size, but chew toys with some flexibility are generally recommended. To prevent teeth-damaging chewing resulting from boredom, make sure you provide good psychological stimulation for your dog as well as safe toys.

Dental wear and tooth flattening is also a normal function of age and has been reported in prehistoric fossil wolf skulls, modern-day wolves, coyotes, and foxes. Let's just ensure that we do not speed up the process by providing objects that are too hard and potentially dangerous to dental health.

The original version of this article appeared in AKC Family Dog's "Ask Dr. Kevin" column.

Motel 6 Discount
use the AKC account # CP542764 for a 10% discount
No Pet Fee
No weight restriction
All are pet friendly unless prohibited by law

800-466-8356 or <http://www.akc.org/motel16>.

The only one I know of in the area that doesn't allow pets is
Roseville MN unless the city ordinance has changed

Calendar of Events

FEBRUARY

TBD BOARD MEETING 7PM TBD
 6 VALENTINES PHOTO SHOOT FUNDRAISER
 9 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 7PM CLUBHOUSE
 13 WESTMINSTER AGILITY CHAMPIONSHIP 7PM FS1
 13 AGILITY TRIAL COMMITTEE MEETING CARIBOU COFFEE
 EMPIRE MALL 10 AM
 15-16 WESTMINSTER KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW 7PM 15TH
 CNBC 16 USA NETWORK

MARCH

TBD BOARD MEETING TBD
 8 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 7PM CLUBHOUSE
 12 SEKC Awards Banquet 6pm At The Riviera Event
 Center 26665 - 481st street
 12 TDI TESTING CLUBHOUSE ALLDAY
 17 ST PATRICK'S DAY

APRIL

2-3 AGILITY SEMINAR 9AM -4PM CONTACT CAROL EVERETTS
 FOR MORE INFO EGODOG@SVTV.COM
 TBD BOARD MEETING 7 PM TBD
 12 SEKC GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 7 PM CLUBHOUSE

PRESIDENT MESSAGE

Hard to believe that we are almost in January and I already feel like I am playing catch-up. Classes will be starting in Feb and it sounds like they have really filled up. Carol is heading up two great seminars this year – one for agility and one for obedience and I know that I am really looking forward to the obedience one. Feb will be the first month for the new board and they will try to get everything done but if you have something that you want discussed or looked at, please let one of us know.

We are always looking for new ideas and suggestions, so if you have something that you would like the club to participate in, a great idea for a fund raiser or something that you would like to see change, please let me know.

Paula Spielman

regions. In one study, dogs with food allergies suffered from itchy ears in 80 percent of the cases (and in fact, only the ear was affected in a quarter of all cases); itchy feet in 61 percent; itchy groin region in 53 percent; and itchy armpits, anterior foreleg, or eye regions in about 35 percent of cases. Secondary ear and skin infections often arise from self-inflicted trauma from scratching and chewing. These infections must be treated along with removal of the offending food.

Some breeds, such as [Cocker Spaniels](#), [Labrador Retrievers](#), [Golden Retrievers](#), [German Shepherd Dogs](#), [Poodles](#), and [Chinese Shar-Pei](#), may be at greater risk for food allergies, though they can appear in any breed.

Allergies can appear at any age, but most dogs have been eating the offending food for two years before signs of allergy appear. Some develop signs as early as two months of eating the offending food, but allergic reactions are not something that normally appear immediately after introducing a new food. But once symptoms appear, their onset is often sudden and serious.

Most dogs react to one or two allergens; about 20 percent react to more. There's a greater chance that dogs react to animal products from the same species (milk and meat from cattle, for example) or from related species (cattle, sheep, and deer, for example).

Diet trials are inconvenient and tedious. But compared to your dog's discomfort, they're a small price to pay to identify the culprit. Unfortunately there is [no cure](#) for food allergies—except to avoid the offending foods.

Braggs



D

Dickens will be 1yr old

on 2/17/2016



Dandy has completed over 1000 visits during 10yrs of being a therapy dog. Dandy will be 14 on 2/19/2016



Dino Earned his UD and RAE2 on 11-28-15 and turned 5yrs old on 1-15-16



Davy earned 8 HC and 2 HIT for 34 OTCH points in 2015

These 4 great Golden Retrievers are loved and handled by Carol Everetts

SEKC
PO Box 719
Sioux Falls SD
57101

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



