



Django and Tilly, Collingswood, NJ



WoofGang's Laura Garber is a Fear-Free Certified Professional Trainer, offering Fear-Free as well as basic relationship training and behavior modification sessions.

Please call for more details.

The *Fear-Free* initiative endeavors to reduce fear, anxiety and stress in our pets during veterinary procedures, while also deepening the humananimal bond. Call WoofGang for more information and to set up your Fear-Free visit today!

Bringing Up Puppies

All young animals experience a developmental stage during which they discover the things that are necessary to, and the things that threaten, their survival. For dogs, this sensitivity period lasts until somewhere between 13 and 16 weeks. The things they have not experienced during this time will be things that, later in life, they will be cautious of or, worse, aggressive towards.

During this sensitivity period, puppies need to learn the types of people, animals, and experiences that will be part of their lifescape going into the future. Further, this is an important time for them to learn bite inhibition, aloneness tolerance, sharing of their resources (food and toys), and restraint and handling. There is also no better time to start teaching them impulse control and frustration tolerance, and to prevent their developing demand behaviors.

Your puppy is going to be your canine companion for the rest of her life. There is no better time to start her education off on the right paw!

Cats: Thinking Inside the Box

There are many reasons for a cat's inappropriate elimination, and you will need to uncover the issue(s) he might be having in order to solve it. Here are some things to consider...

Medical Issues – First and foremost, you must eliminate the possibility that your kitty might have a medical issue before you can attempt to remedy the situation behaviorally.

Cleanliness – Cats are fastidious creatures, so it goes without saying that they don't appreciate having to use a dirty potty.

Litter – Cats can have a preference for the type of litter that they use, whether it's clumping or non-clumping, with or without a fragrance, etc.

Litterbox – The type and size of litterboxes, their location and the number of litterboxes can also be important, especially in a house with multiple cats. A good rule of thumb is to have one box per cat plus one extra. Larger cats need a larger box and many don't appreciate a cover.

Spraying is not the same as inappropriate elimination. Spraying can be indicative of territorial issues or communication or relationship between cats.

To sum up, remember: *your cat is not being naughty*. Not using his box is his way of telling you something is wrong.

Give WoofGang a call for more info!