



Dog Meadow – February 2022

Welcome to our February newsletter. The days are short and the temperatures are frigid. Yet, it doesn't stop us from loving the days caring for our pups. While a sheet of ice may cover Dog Meadow, we take precautions with our farm animals, while our dog guests stay warm and cozy in our house. Thank you for being with us and supporting us. Join us for a summary of some of the goings-on at Dog Meadow.



Our barn cat Kristen usually takes the herd out to pasture, but it'll be a long wait till all the snow melts.

TERRA FROZEN

Throughout the year, our cat Kristen usually leads the herd out to pasture, but when the days are cold and the snow covers the ground the herd stays close to the barn. An ample amount of hay is provided a few times a day. The bedding is turned once a week and new shavings are added to ensure they have a dry place to lay and is a self-composting system, which also creates a great deal of warmth. The ducks on the other hand love the water. Although, recently we were hit with high winds and snow that they, along with the chickens did not even want to venture out of the coop. So we had to bring food and water inside so they can eat. Our hobby farm is tiny compared to what farmers in the area have to deal with, nevertheless, the same challenges are there. From frozen latches to frozen hoses, frozen eggs, and slippery conditions, we have to be prepared to ensure that all the animals have everything necessary to make it through the winter.



While the goats and sheep try to stay dry, the ducks can't wait to bathe in the icy water.



Eliza and Morgan take turns to teach one of our pups how to spin.



We limit the time the dogs stay outside to protect their paws.

OUTSIDE IN

While some dogs can be very hearty and want to spend all their time outdoors, it isn't always good for them so we try to find other things to keep them occupied. One of the favorite things to do inside is cuddling with the furry kids and giving belly rubs. They love the attention. But they also need stimulation by being challenged. We all need that. Although we don't do training per se, we do reinforce commands. To create a closer bond, our interns Eliza and Morgan, take turns teaching the dogs some tricks. It's a lot easier if the dog is treat-motivated. This also teaches our interns skills in patience and following procedures which are skills that they can apply to their own future endeavors as well.

Eliza and Morgan are students at the Maplebrook School in Amenia, NY, a school for kids with challenges. In addition to providing them with an education, the school works with organizations throughout the county to gain help them gain job skills and people skills. We're happy to be a part of their program.

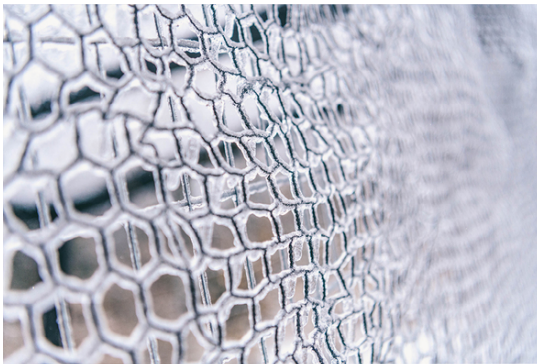


THE THRILL OF VICTORY THE AGONY OF THE FEET

Imagine walking out into the snow barefoot. How long do you think you'll manage to stay out without any protection? Probably not long at all, I bet. This is something to consider when letting our dogs out and run about in icy, snowy conditions. While it makes for some great photos and videos, especially when chasing kongs and sledding, it can be quite dangerous for their paws. While it's fun for them and they do love it, we limit the time they are out as the ice can actually cut into their skin and cause bleeding. If they are left out too long, they can even have lacerations that take time to heal. Some dogs are more sensitive than others so we may use a wax that protects the pads on their paws. Still, we can't lose sight of the time spent outdoors. They have to come inside and warm up. Inside it's a cozy 70° and they love laying on the sofas with us. As for our feet, we make sure that we have waterproof shoes and thick socks to keep our feet dry. I provide everyone with Yaktrax for their shoes. These things are amazing and I can't imagine going a winter around here without them. We can literally walk on ice with them. I even showed one of my clients some dance moves while wearing them when they picked up their dog. Occasionally, some of our clients will bring a sweater for their dogs.

ICE, ICE, BABY!

A gallery of photos of what February looks like around Dog Meadow. Looks pretty, but the downside is breaking down the ice to open frozen doors, frozen water, frozen latches, frozen facades.





Although, beautiful when things ice over, it isn't always fun.



Laura, takes a break and warms up in her hot tub while surrounded by icy mist..

Dog Meadow Blog

Laura Evans, Lady of Dog Meadow, writes a Dog Meadow blog entry on a weekly basis (more or less). She shares life at Dog Meadow as well as trials and tribulations in life as a whole. Every entry includes an easy-to-follow recipe at the end. We encourage you to read it ***here*** and please subscribe.

Did you know...

you can do something to help Dog Meadow? Yes, you can! And it takes less than a minute. If you follow us on Instagram or Facebook, "liking" and/or sharing our posts greatly increases our exposure and ensures that your dog will always have doggy friends to play with here at Dog Meadow.

Bookings

Please remember to book your dog's stay early at Dog Meadow. Booking requests must be made and confirmed via email. As of January 2022, we will be requiring deposits for all stays that are three (3) nights or longer. It is up to you to reach out to us if and when you are ready to book your dog's stay. Booking requests must be made and confirmed via email. If you do not have an email confirming a reservation for specific dates, you do not have a reservation.

With that said, we remind you to make sure that your dog's vaccinations are up-to-date. We encourage you to check your records and make appointments with your dog's vet if needed to ensure that he is in good health. You can find our **requirements** on our website.

Finally, let's all be safe and kind to one another.



Dog Meadow asks that if you have not been vaccinated that masks be worn as recommended by the CDC when dropping off and/or picking up your dog.



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