

Get ready for your PuppyLove or Basic Manners first class/orientation or private class

Best Paw Forward Inc., 1835 Oak Haven Plantation Road, Osteen, Fl. 32764-8872

North of Oviedo and Sanford, east of Deltona

bestpaw@bestpaw.com www.bestpaw.com 407-321-1006 home office 407-415-6601 cell

Open enrollment means no need to wait for far-off start dates.

Osteen class? Print & follow directions from web page or from our e-mails.

GPS & mapping programs may have serious routing errors – just use to generally confirm our directions. Always change route to avoid Boy Scout Camp Road (unless you live in that area and know how to navigate the sugar sand).

Schedule orientation, small group & private classes: <https://bestpaw.com/sign-up>

In-home private sessions available for friendly dogs.

Dogs with social issues must come to the Osteen site.

Advance appointment for orientation required for PuppyLove or Basic Manners

- Orientation makes it possible to start right away
- Is your first class
- Must be at a different time & different day from regular series times
- Regularly offered Mon., Tues., Wed. early evenings most weeks
- Also available other suggested times listed on class schedule page or appointment calendar

Entire family welcome for most programs

- especially PuppyLove & Basic Manners
- Two adults, please, in each family with children younger than age 5
- Children must remain with parents or guardians at all times
- Group sessions with shy, nervous, aggressive dogs do not include young children

Bring to first class:

- Your dog
- Vaccine or titer records (vet receipt is fine) or send online
- IMPORTANT! PuppyLove pups only need one of their puppy before starting classes – don't miss out by starting too late for PuppyLove
- Treats – see details below.
- Dogs must be clean, healthy, free of parasites such as fleas, ticks etc.

No full dog tummies for class, orientation, workshops!

- Morning class: no breakfast until after class
- Evening class: light breakfast before 9 a.m.; no other food until after class
- Very shy or nervous dog: no food for 24 hours before first session
- Provide fresh water at all times for your dog. No need to withhold water before any classes nor usually at any other time

Bring great treats to every class

- 3-4 different items, high-protein special treats such as all-meat or low-fat hot dogs, cheese; cooked boneless chicken, meat like drained lean ground beef or fresh liver

(cheaper and healthier than most dog treats). Soft high-value treats cut into tiny bits (puffed rice to frozen pea size) or in chunks that can be easily ripped apart during class

- Avoid sugar-heavy, chemical-laden, grain-filled dog treats. 1 lb. or more for medium to large dogs, 12 oz. and up for small to medium dogs
- Something novel & exciting that pup does not get at home already
- In easy-open treat pouch, treat bag or carpenter/kitchen apron with pockets
- Plastic baggies containing treats **not allowed**

TRAINING EQUIPMENT

- Safe equipment required at all sessions.
- Secure leash & snug-fitting collar for private or orientation class

PuppyLove dogs (8-18 weeks old at first class) **or private class for pups under 18 weeks old**

- Buckle or snap collars
- No harnesses in PuppyLove
- *Leather or soft nylon leashes. Leather recommended, especially for pups already pulling hard. Instructors may demonstrate with dogs on leather leashes (easier & safer to hold onto wiggly pups
- **Gentle Leader or Snoot Loop head collar for pups already pulling hard.

Basic Manners dogs (older pups & adult dogs) **or private class for friendly older pups & adult dogs**

- Snug-fitting, thin, **all-nylon slip collars**
- **All-nylon limited choke/slip collars**
- *Leather leash, 4' long, no wider than. 5/8" (available for purchase at Best Paw Forward Inc.)
- ****Gentle Leader or Snoot Loop** head collars

When wearing a slip collar or limited slip, all other collars must be removed.

No chain nor partial chain collars allowed in beginning nor agility classes.

No harnesses allowed on dogs in Basic Manners nor PuppyLove sessions, nor on any agility equipment, for safety reasons. Feel free to contact us for any clarification.

For friendly smaller dogs or dogs that do not pull on leash around distraction, we may allow snug-fitting buckle or snap collars, & leash variations. We reserve the right to require safe, easily-handled equipment at any & all sessions.

Female dogs in season may not attend Basic Manners. They are still welcome in advanced sessions at owners' discretion with careful management. Owners who attend Basic Manners classes without their dogs during those weeks get free group make up sessions later.

What you should wear

- Comfortable clothing
- Non-skid shoes such as tennis or athletic shoes
- No sandals nor flip flops
- Pockets are a big plus!

Cell phones and pages

- Turn off internet connections, notifications during class.
- Mute phones, tablets, pagers during class unless you are taking pictures or video to share with us for class credit.
- Let your instructor know about a special need to leave one on during class, or if you are filming/shooting pictures to share.
- Step at least 20 feet away from an outdoor class in Osteen, or outside in Osteen or Spring Oaks if you must take an emergency call during a class.

If your dog has serious social or noise issues, please register for Best Paw Forward Inc.'s private classes, or Detouring Doggie Delinquents workshops/growl classes when available.

Work Study available! We love students who exchange their help or barter items for discounted group sessions and workshops. Details available at www.bestpaw.com

Discounts available with advance registration, payment before first session:

BPF Continuing/Returning Students

Seniors

Multiple Dogs In Household

Experienced Trainers

Rescue Volunteers

Referring Rescue Groups

Law Enforcement, firefighters, active military

Emergency Services Personnel

Service Dogs, Service Dogs in Training

Veterinary staff

Class postponement Class cancellation announcements are posted on the web page, answering machine and via Facebook. Rainy, cold and hot weather will not affect indoor classes, and we have provisions in place to work around those conditions at other sites.

Group Class Locations

Best Paw Forward Inc. Sports Club, Home Office
1835 Oak Haven Plantation Rd., Osteen FL 32764-8872
Spring Oaks Animal Care Center
152Gregor Road, Deland 32720

* **Best leash for all ages: 4' to 6' leather** or cotton, easy to hold, handmade latigo

- \$22 plus tax for 5/8" by 4'
- No wider than 5/8" for medium to large dogs, 1/2" for most smaller dogs.
- Usually required for Basic Dogs, recommended for puppies.
- We use, sell & recommend handmade HMI's locally hand-made leather leashes
- HMI leashes available in variety of lengths, widths at prices that meet or beat other local sources and most online (same price for at least 20 years!).
- Why no nylon leashes for older pups & dogs? Come in pretty colors but can hurt hands if dog pulls on leash.
- Chain leashes prohibited for all classes. Extendable leashes prohibited except in some advanced obedience class exercises.
- **Private or orientation class:** We can check leashes there to see what is working for you.
- You are welcome to purchase or order one online elsewhere as long as you have it by your 2nd class (the one following orientation) or you must buy one of ours.

****Gentle Leader or Snoot Loop** head collars

- Available online, at some big pet supply chains (the brand does matter – don't give in on other brands)
- For easy, gentle control of dogs new to our program
- To ensure that dogs cannot slip away, not for leash corrections.
- Great choice for dog or puppy that's pulling hard.
- Walks can improve quickly.
- Dog wears regular collar with tags as well as head collar – the two work quite well together.
- Talk to us about how to work with a dog who is uncomfortable with strangers closely examining the fit. A snug-fitting buckle collar may be best for orientation or a private session in that case.