

Get ready for PuppyLove or Basic Manners orientation (first class of your series) or private class

Best Paw Forward Inc., 1835 Oak Haven Plantation Road, Osteen, Fl. 32764-8872
North of Oviedo and Sanford, east of Deltona. Private throughout Central Fla.
Group classes also at Spring Oaks Animal Care Center in DeLand
bestpaw@bestpaw.com 407-321-1006 home office <https://bestpaw.com> 407-415-6601 cell

PuppyLove or Basic Manners orientation

- Makes it possible to start right away
- Not regular series times
- Included free on noon Mon., 4:30 p.m. Wed. or 6:30 p.m. Thurs. (other times require additional \$25 fee & advance payment)
- Is your first class
- Schedule orientation, small group & private classes: <https://bestpaw.com/sign-up>
- In-home private sessions available for friendly dogs. Regular at-your-site prices apply
- **IMPORTANT!** PuppyLove pup only needs one puppy shot before starting classes – don't miss out by starting too late

Print/follow directions to Osteen site from web page or from our e-mails.

GPS & mapping programs sometimes 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 suck-your-tires-down sugar sand).

Bring to first class:

- Your dog, hungry (no full dog tummies for class, orientation, workshops!)
 - Morning class or early afternoon: no breakfast until after class
 - Late afternoon or evening class: light breakfast before 9 a.m.; no other food/treats 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
 - Vaccine or titer records (vet receipt is fine) or send online
 - **Bring great treats to every class, including orientation**
 - 3-4 different items, cooked high-protein special treats (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
- all-meat or low-fat hot dogs
drained lean ground beef cheese
boneless chicken
lunch meat
liver

- Avoid dog treats, especially sugar-heavy, artificial sweeteners, chemical-laden, grain-filled
 - 1-2 lbs. or more for medium to large dogs
 - 12 oz. or more for small to medium dogs
- Something novel & exciting that pup does not get at home already
- In easy-open easy-close dog training treat pouch, treat bag, carpenter/kitchen apron with pockets, easy-open plastic container.
- Plastic baggies containing treats **not allowed** because dogs HAVE swallowed the bags

Dogs must be clean, healthy, free of parasites such as fleas, ticks etc.

Entire family welcome for most programs

- especially PuppyLove & Basic Manners
- Two adults if possible, please, in each family with children younger than age 5
- Children must remain with parents or guardians at all times

Detour Doggie Delinquents programs:

Dogs 19 weeks (early teenagers) or older with social issues must come to Osteen site
 Young children may not attend group sessions with shy, nervous, dominant, possessive, territorial, protective or aggressive dogs. They may come to private sessions with their dogs with at least two attending adults completely responsible for the safety of attending family & friends

TRAINING EQUIPMENT

- Safe equipment required at all sessions.
- Secure leash & **snug-fitting** collar for private or orientation class
- Best leash for all ages: 4' to 6' leather or cotton, easy to hold, no wider than 5/8", 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*
- Harnesses, extendable leashes prohibited in PuppyLove, Basic Manners, Manners Plus, agility classes

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

- Buckle or snap collars
- No harnesses in PuppyLove
- Leather or soft fabric leashes. Leather recommended (and used with our own dogs), especially for pups already pulling hard
- Instructors more often demonstrate with class dogs that are on leather leashes (easier & safer for holding 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. The best choice** for your dog that pulls hard on the leash, especially if you have trouble holding on when pulled, is the **Gentle Leader head collar**

- **Gentle Leader or Snoot Loop** head collars
- Or snug-fitting, medium-weight **nylon slip collars** (we recommend snap slip/chokes from <https://www.rescopetproducts.com/training-choke-store>) used here so dogs cannot back out of collars in class. No yanking please, and no other collars on dog's neck when you use one of these
- **OR Thin nylon limited choke/slip collars snug at top of neck** without rings meeting. No yanking please, and no other collars on dog's neck when you use one of these
- Leather leash, 4-6' long, no wider than 5/8" (available for purchase at Best Paw Forward Inc.)
- You are welcome to purchase or order approved leashes online elsewhere as long as you have it by your 2nd class (the one following orientation) or you must then buy one of ours, for safety reasons.

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

- Walks can improve quickly.
- For easy, gentle control of pups & dogs new to training, or long-time serious pullers
- To ensure that dogs cannot slip away (not for leash corrections)
- Dog wears regular collar with tags as well as head collar – the two work quite well together, and make it easier to go back down to regular collars later
- Available online, at some big pet supply chains (the brand does matter – don't give in on other brands)
- 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.

When dog is wearing a slip collar or limited slip (must be nylon), all other collars must be removed.

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

No wide collars on any dog that pulls on leash

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.

Occasionally, 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, pagers

- Turn off internet connections, notifications during class
- Mute phones, tablets, pagers during class
- Please do take pictures and video to share with us for class credit – talk to your instructor about downloads
- 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 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.

Inclusive programs - work study available so all can afford to train their dogs, and those so inclined help keep the program thriving! We love students who exchange their help or barter items for discounted group sessions and workshops. Details available at <https://bestpaw.com/discount-opportunities>

Discounts available with completed class registration form sent in advance, payment before first session:

BPF Continuing/Returning Students

Reputable breeders & their pups

Seniors

Multiple dogs in household

Experienced trainers

Service dogs, service dogs in training

Veterinary staff

Essential personnel, including law enforcement, firefighters, military, Coast Guard, medical personnel, teachers, mental health counselors

Class postponement Class cancellation announcements posted on web page, voicemail machine and Facebook. Rainy, cold or hot weather will not affect indoor classes. Provisions in place to work around those conditions

- **Private or orientation class:** Will check your leash to see what is working for you and your dog. Hard pullers or Detour Doggie Delinquents students must use leather leashes in most cases.