



Tara Ellen, CCDT
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Dog Training & Pet Care
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Oneness Canine Care Dog Training Policies

Training Approach

As a professional dog trainer, I abide by a force-free approach to dog training. I exclusively use positive reinforcement training techniques. Good behavior and happiness go hand-in-hand, and this is by far the best way dog's learn. By focusing on your dogs needs, together we'll discover exciting ways to engage, communicate and have fun. My hope is for you and your pup to have a long and loving relationship.

I offer private sessions at your home and in your neighborhood. Each session includes single or multiple lessons, depending on:

- Time allotted
- You and your dog's comfort level
- Previous training (with me or other trainer)
- How quickly your dog picks up on cues

Before training begins, you will be required to create a profile in the Time To Pet (TTP) portal. I use this system for scheduling, storing client and pet information, and processing payments. I will send you a link via email to get started.

Expectations

1. Your dog must have up-to-date core vaccinations with your veterinarian (rabies, canine distemper, adenovirus and parvovirus). You'll be able to enter this data in your account via the Time To Pet portal.

2. Training is conducted with family members, ideally the person who will be the primary handler and trainer. During our initial call, we'll discuss who plans to participate.
3. At this time I do not offer board and train or walk and train services.
4. Children are absolutely welcome and encouraged to participate as long as parents are present.
5. Each training session will be customized for your dog at a level where he/she gains the most out of the session. Every dog learns at their own pace.
6. You and your dog will never be pushed beyond your comfort zone.

Training Sessions

1. Based on your goals and concerns, I will provide a variety of positive reinforcement training methods to help your pup stay safe, overcome behavioral challenges and build his/her confidence.
2. During our sessions, I will ensure to provide valuable feedback, observations and recommendations in areas such as:
 - Managing the environment
 - Fundamental training cues
 - Proper use of equipment
 - Introduction of enrichment toys and treats
3. Initial sessions are typically 90-min in duration. This allows time to assess your dog's current abilities and behaviors. We'll have time to discuss a plan and start training. Depending on your dog's current level of training and focus areas, we may be able to conduct a 60-min initial session at a reduced cost.
4. Each session will include demonstrations and opportunities for you to practice handling techniques with your dog.
5. We will keep it simple so you and your dog are not overwhelmed.
6. Prior to each session, you will receive a training plan that we can modify as we go. You'll also receive feedback in the form of notes and video following each session.
7. During follow-up sessions, we will review the previous lessons and move forward with additional cues. I will not attempt to add on training if together we determine that your dog needs more practice with previous lessons.

Training Environment

1. First and foremost, the training environment must be safe and secure for you, your dog, and other participants.
2. Before training begins, we will inspect the area to ensure that there is nothing that can injure people or pets.
3. For the safety of your dog and all participants, other dogs are not permitted to participate in the training session.
4. If your dog has a bite history and/or any tendencies to become mouthy, please use a muzzle if he/she has been trained to wear one. We can discuss muzzle training if necessary.
5. Training sessions will be conducted in a variety of environments to include:
 - Areas within your home (typically on-leash to start)
 - Outside in a fenced yard (on and off leash)
 - Nearby parks (on-leash only)
 - Walks around your neighborhood (on-leash only)
6. If you live in an apartment complex or do not have a fenced yard, we'll assess your area and come up with locations to practice.
7. During times of inclement weather training will be conducted indoors or virtually (intense heat, cold, rain or heavy winds).

Equipment and Training Treats/Toys

1. Please provide equipment for your dog, such as a properly fitted harness and/or collar and leash (head halter or muzzle if necessary).
2. During our session I may suggest other equipment options, but you are not required to change anything that you prefer to use.
3. Please provide training treats for our sessions. Food rewards are a valuable incentive for learning. For much of the training we can use your dog's daily kibble ration. The addition of high-value treats can be used when teaching something brand new.
4. Treats should be small (size of a pea), and soft enough for your dog to consume quickly. Look for bags of training treats in pet stores, or you can use small bits of unseasoned chicken, cheese, beef liver, hot dog, etc.
5. If you do not have treats for our session, I will have bags on hand for purchase.
6. If your dog is not food motivated we can try using toys. Have a variety of toys on hand for our session (tug toys, plush toys, hard rubber toys, flirt pole, etc). As we go we'll figure out what best motivates your dog to learn.

Service Areas and Hours of Operation

1. Service areas include: Falls Church, Arlington, Annandale, Tysons Corner and Vienna. If you are located outside of these areas, I may be able to accommodate you if my schedule allows. Additional travel fee may be required.
2. Free initial virtual consultations may be scheduled Monday-Sunday between the hours of 7AM-7PM.
3. In-person training sessions may be scheduled Monday-Sunday between the hours of 10AM-6PM
4. Virtual training sessions may be scheduled Monday-Sunday between the hours of 7AM-7PM. Virtual training sessions are limited to follow up sessions and refreshers only. Initial sessions are in-person.
5. Scheduling is requested via email or call/text: onenesscaninecare@proton.me, (571) 296-6287

Session Rates and Training Packs

Puppy Training (8 weeks-1 year)

Puppy training can help prevent behavioral issues as your pup develops. As he/she progresses, we can include more advanced training techniques.

Foundational training for your new puppy can include:

- Potty and crate/pen training
- No jumping
- No nipping
- Walking nicely on leash
- Confidence building
- Greeting other dogs
- Basic cues (sit, stay, down, etc)

Cost

- Initial puppy training: \$175
(90-min includes assessment plus training)
- Follow up lessons (each): \$125
(60-min includes review of previous session plus add-on training)

Dog Training Basics (1 year or older)

New dog at home or your dog needs further reinforcement? The Dog Training Basics level is designed to focus on foundational training and more advanced techniques with the 3Ds (distance, duration and distraction), impulse control, redirection exercises and recall.

Cost

- Initial session: \$175
(90-min includes assessment plus training)
- Follow up lessons (each): \$125
(60-min includes review of previous session plus add-on training)

Dogs who have completed Puppy Training with me can start Dog Training Basics (no initial session required). Depending on your dog's current level of training and focus areas, we may be able to conduct a 60-min initial training session at the cost of a follow up.

Behavior Specific Training

Are you dealing with some concerning behavior while at home or on walks? We can focus on specific behaviors such as:

- Continued potty accidents at home
- Chewing
- Impulse control
- Leash reactivity
- Pulling on leash
- Stress greeting strangers or visitors
- Excessive barking
- Separation anxiety
- Territorial behavior
- Resource guarding
- And many other behaviors

Cost

- Initial session: \$200
(90-min, assessment plus training)
- Follow up lessons (each): \$150
(60-min, review of previous session plus add-on training)

Refresher Lessons

Refreshers are a great way to focus a specific area you'd like to work on (i.e.: pulling on leash), especially if we've done training on this particular issue before. Refreshers are optional for all dogs who have completed training with me.

Cost

- Refresher (30-min): \$55
- Refresher (60-min): \$110

Follow up lessons and Refreshers can be done virtually or in-person.

Training Packs

Training packs are a bundle of multiple training sessions sold at a discounted rate to help maintain everything we cover during our lessons. By committing to training packs, you and your dog have a higher chance of success. Currently, only a 6-session training pack is offered.

- Training packs are discounted sessions paid upfront.
- Training packs do not include the initial session.
- Each session may be scheduled on a weekly, biweekly or monthly basis.
- We can schedule all pack sessions at one time or along the way.
- Training sessions must be rescheduled with at least 5 days notice, otherwise you may forfeit the session. I will absolutely do my best to reschedule your session.
- Sessions must be completed within 6 months from purchase date.
- Training Packs may be renewed when completed at the current rate (which may be different than the cost of the pack previously purchased).
- Training packs are non-refundable.
- Training packs may not be transferred or shared.
- Refreshers are single sessions and cannot be purchased as a pack.

Cost

Puppy Pack (6 sessions): \$660
Basic Training Pack (6 sessions): \$660
Behavior Pack (6 sessions): \$810

All training sessions include:

- Training plans that we can modify as we go (applies to individual sessions and training packs)
- Feedback in the form of notes and video following our sessions
- Tips about enrichment and engagement exercises to do with your dog at home between training sessions
- Open email and text communication between scheduled training sessions at no cost (scheduling a virtual private session would be an additional fee or redemption of a prepaid training pack session)

All rates are for one dog. Additional dogs would require a separate initial session and follow up lessons. Rates are subject to change. You will receive advance notice of any rate changes.

Payment Methods

- Payment methods include credit card or Zelle
- Invoices will be accessible via the Time To Pet portal.
- Individual training sessions (initials and follow ups), training packs and associated fees will be itemized on the invoice.
- Please pay your invoice within 3 days of the initial session.

Scheduling and Contact Information

1. During our phone or virtual consultation we will discuss your goals and concerns.
2. I will take notes and gather pertinent information about your pup and your home.
3. A brief history to include:
 - Any health issues
 - Current medication
 - Medical procedures
 - Behaviors
 - Physical limitations
 - Any previous training
 - Observations
4. Following our call, we can schedule our first training session. No problem if you need time to figure out when we can meet up for our first

session. You can contact me at a later date to schedule.

Email: onenesscaninecare@proton.me

Call/text: (571) 296-6287

I will confirm our appointment via email or text (your preference). I will also send a reminder of our training session date, time and location 48 hours prior.

Cancellation and Rescheduling

1. There will be a \$50 cancellation fee if you need to change or cancel our appointment with less than 48-hours notice.
2. For training pack sessions, I will do my very best to reschedule our session as soon as possible.
3. No refunds or credits will be issued for unused training pack sessions.
4. No refunds will be issued for completed training sessions (in-person or virtual).