

The German Shepherd Dog Club of Central Ohio, Inc.

Presents



Basic First Aid Class

Tuesday, November 15, 2016 7:30pm
Ganyard Building - Franklin County Fairgrounds
Hilliard, Ohio
Kathi Jo Zornes, Club Member & Presenter



PET EMERGENCY SHEET

SUMMARY FOR

Species:

Breed:

Sex:

DOB:

Microchip:

Registration:

*Photograph
of Your Pet*

Veterinarian:

Address:

Telephone:

After Hours:

*Photograph / Scan
of Current Vaccinations*

Owner(s) Contact Details:

Emergency Contact(s):

Emergency Support Numbers:

Additional Notes:

Due for Review NLT:

How to Transport an Injured Dog

Once you've restrained the injured dog, you'll want to get it to a veterinarian as soon as possible. Try not to move a hurt dog more than necessary, and have someone call the veterinarian to be certain he or she is prepared for your arrival. In the meantime, use the following tips to help you transport your pet with the utmost care.

A flat board must be used if a broken back is suspected.

Step 1: Use a blanket or flat board as a stretcher. If you are using a board proceed to Step 2. If you are using a blanket:

Place one hand under the dog's chest and the other under its rear; carefully lift or slide the dog onto the blanket.

Transport the dog to the veterinarian.

Step 2: If you are using a flat board:

Depending on the size of the dog, use a table leaf, an ironing board, a large cutting board, or a removable bookshelf. Make sure whatever you use will fit in your car.

Place 2 or 3 long strips of cloth or rope equidistant under the board, avoiding the area where the dog's neck will rest.

Place one hand under the dog's chest and the other under its rear; carefully lift or slide the dog onto the board. Tie the dog to the board.

Step 3: Transport the dog to the veterinarian.

How To Give Oral Medications [Liquid & Pill]

Step 1: Relieve the dog's apprehension by talking quietly and reassuringly.

Slip one arm under the dog's neck, holding its throat gently in the crook of your arm. Be sure the dog can breathe easily.

Pass the other arm over or under the middle of the dog, using gentle but firm pressure to hold its body against yours.

If necessary, apply a mouth-tie loosely so there is only slight jaw movement.

Step 2: Gently tip the dog's head slightly backward.

Step 3: Pull the dog's lower lip out at the corner to make a pouch.

Step 4: Using a plastic eyedropper or dose syringe, place the fluid a little at a time into the pouch, allowing each small amount to be swallowed before giving any more of the dose.

Step 5: Gently rub the dog's throat to stimulate swallowing.

Pills [when a bribe like cheese, pnut butter or pill pocket isn't readily available]

Step 1: Restrain the dog. If the dog is hard to handle, you may need help restraining it.

Relieve the dog's apprehension by talking quietly and reassuringly.

Step 2: Grasp the dog's upper jaw with one hand over its muzzle.

Step 3: Press the dog's lips over the upper teeth by pressing your thumb on one side and your

fingers on the other so the dog's lips are between its teeth and your fingers. Apply firm pressure to force its mouth open.

Step 4: Hold the pill between the thumb and index finger of your other hand, and place the pill as far back in the dog's mouth as possible.

Step 5: Gently rub the dog's throat to stimulate swallowing.

How to Treat a Bleeding Dog

A GSD's paws and legs are vulnerable to injury from broken glass, nails, and other sharp objects, and they will bleed heavily when cut. An injured ear will also bleed heavily because the skin over the ear is so thin.

With any bleeding injury, the main purpose of first aid is to prevent excessive blood loss, which can lead to shock. The signs of shock include pale or white gums, a rapid heartbeat, or rapid breathing. If any wound is spurting blood, it means an artery has been cut. This requires immediate professional attention.

Also, if the bleeding is caused from a fight between dogs, secure all dogs safely before attempting to administer any kind of first aid.

Dog's Bleeding Head or Torso

Step 1: Restrain the dog if necessary.

Approach the dog slowly, speaking in a reassuring tone of voice.

Slip a leash around the dog's neck, then place the leash around a fixed object. Pull the dog against this object and tie the leash so the dog cannot move its head.

Muzzle the dog to protect yourself.

Step 2: Cover the wound with a sterile gauze pad, clean folded towel, or sanitary napkin.

Step 3: Wrap torn rags or other soft material around the dressing and tie or tape it just tightly enough to hold the bandage in place.

Step 4: Transport the dog immediately to the veterinarian.

Dog's Bleeding Leg, Paw, or Tail

Step 1: Approach the dog slowly, speaking in a reassuring tone of voice.

Step 2: Clip the hair around the injured area.

Step 3: Examine the wound for glass or other foreign objects. If visible, remove the object with your fingers or a pair of tweezers. If the tissue under the wound appears to pass by when you move the skin, the wound will probably require stitches.

Step 4: Flush the wound thoroughly with clean water. Avoid home antiseptics, which may cause pain when applied.

Step 5: Cover the wound with a clean cloth, sterile dressing, or sanitary napkin.

Step 6: Place your hand over the dressing and **press firmly**.

Step 7: Keep pressure on the dressing to stop bleeding. If blood soaks through the dressing, **DO NOT** remove it. Apply more dressing and continue to apply pressure until the bleeding stops. If the bleeding does not stop within 5 minutes, continue to apply pressure on the wound while transporting the dog to the veterinarian.

Step 8: Wrap torn rags or other soft material around the dressing and tie or tape it just tightly enough to keep the bandage on. Start below the wound and wrap upward.

Step 9: If the wound is deep enough to require stitches, keep the dog off the injured leg, and immediately transport your pet to the veterinarian.

If there is a protruding object from the abdomen, such as an arrow, **DO NOT** attempt to remove the object. Place bandages around the point of entry and wrap it.

Dog's Bleeding Ear [Remember - If the injury is from a fight, secure all dogs before attempting to access the situation; a dog on high alert for the potential to be bitten or attacked again may bite you by accident when touched]

Step 1: Restrain the dog if necessary.

Step 2: Cover the wound with a clean cloth, sterile dressing, or sanitary napkin. Place dressing material on both sides of the ear flap, then fold it over the top of the dog's head and hold firmly to control bleeding.

Step 3: Wrap torn sheets or rags around the dressing, ear, and head, making sure the entire ear is covered. Tape or tie the bandage in place.

Step 4: Transport the dog immediately to the veterinarian.

Nail Cut Too Short

Step 1: Restrain the dog if necessary.

Step 2: Hold a clean cloth, sterile dressing, or sanitary napkin against the nail.

Step 3: Keep firm pressure on the area for at least 5 minutes. **DO NOT** remove the bandage until the bleeding stops.

Step 4: If the bleeding does not stop in 5 to 10 minutes, transport the dog to the veterinarian as soon as possible. Continuous bleeding indicates a bleeding disorder that should be treated promptly.

For lighter bleeds, corn starch, flour, styptic pen or powder can also be used safely.

Internal Bleeding

Internal bleeding is always an emergency. The **signs** of internal bleeding are pale or white gums; rapid heartbeat or breathing; and bleeding from the ears, nose, mouth, or rectum. The following steps will help you treat the dog for any potential shock, and transport the dog to professional help immediately.

Step 1: If there is bleeding from any external wounds, treat for shock.

Examine the gums by gently lifting the upper lip so the gum is visible. Pale or white gums indicate the dog is almost certainly in shock and may have serious internal injuries and/or bleeding. If the gums are pink, the dog is probably not in shock.

Determine the heartbeat. Place your fingers firmly on the dog about 2 inches behind the dog's elbow in the center of its chest. Count the number of beats in 10 seconds and multiply by 6. If the dog is in shock its heartbeat may be more than 150 beats per minute.

Step 2: Place the dog on its side with its head extended.

Step 3: Gently pull out the dog's tongue to keep the airway open.

Step 4: Elevate the dog's hindquarters slightly by placing them on a pillow or folded towels.

Step 5: To conserve body heat, wrap the dog in a blanket or jacket.

Step 6: Transport the dog immediately to the veterinarian.

How to Treat a Dog With a Broken Leg

With German Shepherds, as with human beings, all bones are subject to breakage, but leg fractures are by far the most common. It is important to remember that GSDs have a typical high pain tolerance and often a dangling leg seems to cause no pain. Therefore, don't be afraid to handle the fractured limb **gently**. Your German Shepherd will let you know if it hurts. Some signs to look for include a leg that looks misshapen, hangs limply, cannot support body weight, and is swollen. Also watch out for signs of shock, which include pale or white gums, a rapid heartbeat, or rapid breathing.

To provide proper care for your dog's broken bone, use the following steps.

Step 1: Restrain the dog if necessary.

Approach the dog slowly, speaking in a reassuring tone of voice.

Slip a leash around the dog's neck, then place the leash around a fixed object. Pull the dog against this object and tie the leash so the dog cannot move its head.

Muzzle the dog to protect yourself.

Step 2: Examine the leg and determine if the fracture is open (wound near the break or bone protruding from the skin) or closed (no break in the skin).

Step 3: If the fracture is closed, proceed to Step 4. If the fracture is **open**:

Flush the wound thoroughly with clean water.

Cover the wound with a sterile bandage, clean cloth, or sanitary napkin.

DO NOT attempt to splint the fracture. Hold a large folded towel under the unsplinted limb and transport the dog immediately to the veterinarian.

Step 4: If the broken limb is grossly misshapen or the dog appears to be in great pain when you attempt to splint, stop and proceed to Step 5. Otherwise, proceed to splint the bone.

Use any splint material available -- sticks, newspaper, magazine, or stiff cardboard. The object is to immobilize the limb not reset it.

Attach the splints to the fractured leg with torn strips of cloth or gauze.

Tape or tie the strips firmly but not so tightly that circulation may be impaired.

Step 5: Transport the dog immediately to the veterinarian.

Step 6: If the broken limb is grossly misshapen or the dog appears to be in great pain when you attempt to splint, hold a large towel under the unsplinted limb for support and transport the dog immediately to the veterinarian.

How to Treat a Burned Dog

GSDs just love being underfoot while their owners are cooking. While this can be an admirable trait of man's best friend, it can also be dangerous when boiling water or hot cooking oil is being used in the kitchen.

A German Shepherd may experience first-, second-, or third-degree burns that are caused by fire, heat, boiling liquids, chemicals, and electricity. All are painful and can cause damage, even death. Superficial burns, evidenced by pain and reddening of the skin, are usually not serious. However, first aid should be given as soon as possible to ease the pain.

The following tips will help you not only identify the type of burn you're dealing with but will also give you suggestions on how to best treat the injury.

First- or Second-Degree Burns

The signs of a first-degree burn include fur intact or singed, painful lesions, or red skin with possible blisters. The signs of a second-degree burn are singed fur or painful lesions that turn tan in color with swelling and blisters. If you notice any of these warning signs, here's what to do:

Step 1: Restrain the dog if necessary.

Step 2: Apply cold water or ice packs to the burned area and leave in contact with the skin for 15 minutes. DO NOT apply ointment or butter.

Step 3: If burns cover a large part of the dog's body or are located where the dog can lick them, cover the area with a sterile dressing. DO NOT use cotton.

Step 4: Wrap torn rags or other soft material around the dressing and tie or tape it just tightly enough to keep it in place.

Step 5: Transport the dog to the veterinarian as soon as possible.

Third-Degree Burns

The signs of a third-degree burn include destruction on entire skin area, black or pure white lesions, or fur that pulls out easily. Also watch for signs of shock, which include pale or white gums, a rapid heartbeat, or rapid breathing. If you notice these signs, here's what to do:

Step 1: Restrain the dog if necessary.

Approach the dog slowly, speaking in a reassuring tone of voice.

Step 2: Examine the dog for shock. If he or she is not in shock, proceed to Step 3. Examine the gums by gently lifting the upper lip so the gum is visible. Pale or white gums indicate the dog is almost certainly in shock. If the gums are pink, the dog is probably not in shock.

Determine the heartbeat. Place fingers firmly on the dog about 2 inches behind the dog's elbow in the center of its chest. Count the number of beats in 10 seconds and multiply by 6. If the dog is in shock its heartbeat may be more than 150 beats per minute.

Place the dog on its side with its head extended. Gently pull out the dog's tongue to keep the airway open.

Elevate the dog's hindquarters slightly by placing them on a pillow or folded towels. To conserve body heat, wrap the dog in a blanket or jacket.

Step 3: DO NOT apply ointment or butter. Apply a dry, clean dressing over the burned area. DO NOT use cotton.

Step 4: Wrap torn rags or other soft material around the dressing and tie or tape it just tightly enough to keep it in place.

Step 5: Transport the dog to the veterinarian as soon as possible.

Chemical Burns

The signs of a chemical burn include a chemical odor such as turpentine, gasoline, or insecticide; reddened skin; or pain. If you notice these signs, do the following:

Step 1: Restrain the dog if necessary.

Approach the dog slowly, speaking in a reassuring tone of voice.

Step 2: Wash the area thoroughly with soap and water; repeat as many times as necessary to remove the chemical. Use mild soap and lather well. DO NOT use solvents of any kind.

Step 3: Call the veterinarian for further instructions.

How to Treat a Choking Dog

When a German Shepherd is choking on a foreign object, it needs help at once. The harder it tries to breathe, the more panicky it becomes. Your goal in this emergency situation is to open the dog's airway without being bitten.

The signs that a dog is choking include pawing at the mouth, a pale or blue tongue, obvious distress, or unconsciousness. If the dog is unconscious and you believe a foreign object is present, you must open the airway before giving the dog cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). If the dog cannot breathe, efforts to revive it will be fruitless.

While all this sounds quite overwhelming, you can help a choking or unconscious dog by following the basic tips outlined below. Your efforts may save your GSD's life!

Step 1: Restrain the dog if necessary.

Approach the dog slowly, speaking in a reassuring tone of voice.

Step 2: Clear the airway.

Open the dog's mouth carefully by grasping the upper jaw with one hand over the muzzle.

Press the dog's lips over the upper teeth by pressing your thumb on one side and your fingers on the other so that the lips are between the dog's teeth and your fingers. Apply firm pressure to force the mouth open.

If you can see the object, try to remove it with your fingers.

If you cannot remove the object and the dog is small enough, pick it up by grasping its back legs; turn it upside down and shake vigorously. Slapping its back while shaking may help to dislodge the object.

If you cannot remove the object and the dog is too large to pick up, place the dog on its side on the floor. Place your hand just behind the rib cage and press down and slightly forward quickly and firmly. Release. Repeat rapidly several times until the object is expelled.

Step 3: If you cannot dislodge the object, transport the dog immediately to the veterinarian.

Step 4: If you dislodge the object and the dog is not breathing, feel for a heartbeat by placing your fingers about 2 inches behind the dog's elbow in the middle of its chest.

Step 5: If the dog's heart is not beating, proceed to Step 6. If it is, perform artificial respiration. Turn the dog on its side.

Extend the dog's head and neck. Hold the dog's mouth and lips closed and blow firmly into its nostrils. Administer 1 breath every 3 to 5 seconds. Take a deep breath, and repeat until you feel resistance or see the chest rise.

After 10 seconds, stop. Watch the chest for movement to indicate the dog is breathing on its own.

If the dog is not breathing, continue artificial respiration.

Step 6: If the heart is not beating, perform CPR.

CPR for Dogs Weighing More Than 45 Pounds

Step 1: Turn the dog on its side.

Place the palm of your hand in the middle of the dog's chest.

Press for a count of "2," and release for a count of "1." Firm pressure is required. Repeat about 60 to 90 times per minute.

Alternately (after 30 seconds), hold the dog's mouth and lips closed and blow firmly into its nostrils. Blow for 3 seconds, take a deep breath, and repeat until you feel resistance or see the chest rise. Try to repeat this 10 to 20 times per minute.

After 1 minute, stop. Look at the chest for breathing movement, and feel for a heartbeat by placing your fingers about 2 inches behind the dog's elbow in the center of its chest.

If the dog's heart is not beating, continue CPR. If the heart starts beating but the dog is still not breathing, return to giving artificial respiration.

Step 2: Transport the dog immediately to the veterinarian. CPR or artificial respiration should be continued on the way to the veterinarian or until dog is breathing and its heart is beating without assistance.

Dogs who must have CPR administered, despite the greatest skill demonstrated, have a low survival rate.

Human Medications Safe For Dogs

Here's an idea of some over the counter products that are generally safe for dogs along with their doses & usage.

<u>PRODUCT</u>	<u>CANINE DOSAGE</u>	<u>COMMON USE</u>
Aspirin	5mg per pound	pain relief; anti-inflammatory
Vitamin B-Inj	1/2 to 2 ml subQ ever 24hrs	appetite stimulant
Benadryl	Up to 2 mg per pound every 8hrs	Allergies, itching, etc
Dramamine	Up to 50 mg per 8hrs	Motion/Car sickness
Hydrogen Peroxide 3%	10ml by mouth per 15 min	Induce Vomiting
Pepto Bismol	1 teaspoon per 5lbs every 6hrs	Gas, vomiting, diarrhea
Di-Gel	Up to 4 tablespoons per 8hrs	Anti-Gas & Antacid
Mineral Oil	Up to 4 tablespoons daily	constipation
Kaopectate	1 ml per pound every 2 hours	Diarrhea
Amoxicillin	5mg per pound every 12 hrs	Bacterial Infections
Ampicillin	10mg per pound every 6 hours	Bacterial Infections
Tetracycline	10mg per lb every 8 hours	Bacterial Infections
Penicillin-Inj	1ml per 30 lbs body weight	Bacterial Infections
Erythromycin pills	5mg per lb every 8hrs	Bacterial Infections

Most pet antibiotics capsules are 250mg strength

Most human antibiotics are 500mg strength

Normal Dog Temperature: **101.5 degrees F**

DOSE & MEASUREMENT CONVERSIONS FOR LIQUID MEDICATIONS

1 ml = 1 cc [ML and CC are the **SAME**]

1 liter = 1,000 cc

1 ounce = 30 cc

1 tablespoon = 15 cc

1 teaspoon = 5 cc

16 cups = 128 ounces

8 pints = 16 cups

4 quarts = 8 pints

1 gallon = 4 quarts

1 kg = 2.204 pounds

1 kg = 1,000 grams

1 gram = 1,000 milligrams

BUILDING YOUR DOG FIRST AID KIT - THINGS TO INCLUDE AHEAD OF TIME

- Phone numbers: your vet, the nearest emergency-veterinary clinic (along with directions!) & poison-control center or hotline
- Paperwork for your pet (in a waterproof container or bag): proof of vaccinating & photo ID
- Nylon Leash
- Self-cling bandage (bandage that stretches and sticks to itself but not to fur)
- Muzzle or strips of cloth to prevent biting (don't use this if dog is vomiting, choking, coughing or having difficulty breathing)
- Basic first-aid supplies
- Absorbent gauze pads
- Adhesive tape
- Antiseptic wipes, lotion, powder or spray
- Cotton balls or swabs
- Gauze rolls
- Hydrogen peroxide (to induce vomiting—do this only when directed by a veterinarian or a poison-control expert)
- Non-latex disposable gloves
- Rectal thermometer (your pet's temperature should not rise above 103°F or fall below 100°F)
- Scissors (with blunt ends)
- Sterile non-stick gauze pads for bandages
- Tweezers
- Diphenhydramine (Benadryl®), if approved by a veterinarian for allergic reactions.
- Expired credit card or sample credit card (from direct-mail credit-card offers) to scrape away insect stingers
- Glucose paste or corn syrup (for diabetic dogs or those with low blood sugar)
- Nail clippers
- Non-prescription antibiotic ointment
- Penlight or flashlight
- Plastic eyedropper or syringe
- Rubbing alcohol (isopropyl) to clean the thermometer - or hand sanitizer since it stays in place a little easier
- Splints and tongue depressors
- Styptic powder or pencil (sold at veterinary hospitals, pet-supply stores, and your local pharmacy)
- Towel or blanket