

# Bark News

THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE BARKMORE RESORT

## Tail's Waggin'?



### Paws and Play: October Newsletter Highlights!

 Welcome to this month's edition of Bark News! As we step into October, we're thrilled to share a variety of essential topics that will enrich your experience with your furry companions. First up, we'll discuss dog walking etiquette to ensure that our community remains a harmonious place for all! We'll also provide vital Halloween safety tips to help you navigate the spooky season, ensuring our pets stay safe amidst all the excitement. We proudly spotlight our Dog of the Month, Kai, who is a beloved member of our BarkMore family. You'll love learning more about what makes him so special! Additionally, we'll tackle the issue of leash reactivity, offering practical tips to help you manage your dog's behavior on walks. October is packed with fun activities for our pups and their humans. Join us for fall photos, pupkin patch paintings, sweet potato pies, and bobbing for biscuits! To wrap up the month, don't miss our Halloween party and costume contest! 




#### Dog Walking Etiquette



Here are five simple dog-walking etiquette tips that will make your neighborhood walks more pleasant for everyone:

1. Respect private property: Keep your dog off lawns, gardens, and personal items like mailboxes or decorations. Stick to sidewalks or the grass strip near the street for bathroom breaks.
2. Always clean up after your dog: Carry bags and actually use them. Leaving waste behind is never acceptable, whether it's on the sidewalk, street, or public grass.
3. Not everyone loves dogs: While your dog may be friendly, others might not want to interact. Keep your dog close and assume people are busy or uninterested unless they show otherwise.
4. Other dogs may not want to meet: Just because your dog is social doesn't mean every dog wants to interact. Ask the other owner if their dog is friendly before allowing a meeting.
5. Leashes are a must: No matter how well-behaved your dog is, unexpected distractions can cause them to run off. Follow leash laws to ensure everyone's safety.

Remember, responsible dog walking makes a walk more enjoyable for all! 

### Upcoming Daycare Events



OCTOBER 2ND  
FALL PHOTOS

OCTOBER 9TH  
PUPKIN PATCH  
PAINTING



OCTOBER 16TH  
SWEET PUPTATO  
PIES



OCTOBER 23RD  
BOBBING FOR  
BISCUITS



OCTOBER 30TH  
HOWLOWEEN PARTY  
AND COSTUME CONTEST





# HOWL-O-WEEN SAFETY TIPS

Some dogs thrive in the excitement of Halloween, while others may find the holiday a bit overwhelming. Since every dog is unique, it's important to keep your pet's personality in mind as you enjoy the festivities. Dogs naturally want to guard their home or let you know when someone unfamiliar is nearby, thus constant doorbell ringing and knocks from trick-or-treaters can be unsettling for dogs. Before the trick-or-treating begins, set your pets up in a quiet room away from the Halloween excitement to keep them safe. If your dog tends to dash out the front door but feels secure in a crate, it might be a good idea to place them inside with a toy filled with treats and some soft music playing in the background. When heading out for trick-or-treating, it's best to leave your dog at home. Dogs can react unpredictably to costumes and may act out in an aggressive manner or be very fearful. The hustle and bustle of Halloween can easily overstimulate dogs, and the risk of a bite or a lost pet can quickly ruin the evening's festivities. Before Halloween and while trick-or-treating, make sure to store candy in a high cabinet that is secured with a lock or a child-safety latch. Many treats, including chocolate, gum, and xylitol (a sweetener found in various foods), can be harmful to dogs. Pumpkin can be beneficial for dogs, but excessive amounts can lead to digestive problems. Additionally, rotting pumpkin may contain harmful bacteria, so it's important to keep jack o'lanterns out of reach. Have fun, stay safe!!!

## Paws-itively Pawsome Pooch of the Month

🐾 Kai, our Dog of the Month, is the perfect embodiment of grace, beauty, and manners. With his beautiful coat and striking features, he turns heads wherever he goes, but it's his calm and composed personality that truly captivates. Kai is a model of good behavior, demonstrating the kind of temperament that dog owners dream of. His balanced energy makes him equally suited for moments of play as well as quiet, restful times, adjusting to any environment. One of the things that makes Kai stand out is his attentiveness. He's always alert and aware of his surroundings but remains relaxed, never letting excitement get the best of him. Kai is a shining example of how great training and natural disposition can make for an extraordinary companion. We couldn't be more proud to celebrate Kai this month! 🐾



## LEASH REACTIVITY

Leash reactivity occurs when a dog responds in an undesirable way to a certain stimulus while being leashed. A typical example is when a leashed dog barks or growls at another dog approaching, but behaves normally when off-leash. This specific behavior is called leash reactivity toward other dogs. Another form of leash reactivity is when a dog freezes and refuses to move upon seeing another dog. Although this behavior is different, it still falls under leash reactivity. Leash reactivity can be triggered by various stimuli, not just other dogs. Leash-reactive behaviors often include barking, growling, biting the leash, freezing, trying to run or hide, and excessive lunging or pulling. These behaviors can also occur in other confined settings, such as a kennel or behind a window, as the dog's reaction stems from feeling restrained or restricted. Once a dog has learned a behavior, it won't go away on its own without proper intervention. The only effective way to address leash reactivity is through consistent and focused training.

Here are the key steps to help stop leash-reactive behavior: Begin training in a familiar, low-distraction environment. Encourage your dog to focus on you by rewarding calm behavior (no barking or jumping) with treats and praise. This sets the tone before the walk even begins. Stay calm, not tense: On walks, when a potential trigger like another dog appears, remain calm. Don't tighten the leash or pull your dog. Simply wait for your dog to notice the trigger on their own. Grab their attention: As soon as your dog notices the trigger but before they react, use a command to redirect their attention to you. Reward them with a treat for focusing on you instead of the trigger. Take small steps: Gradually approach the trigger, stopping frequently to get your dog's attention and reward them. If the treats are not as enticing as the stimuli, a tug on the leash will help direct the dog's attention to you. Practice consistently and in varying degrees of stimuli.