

# Bark News

THE OFFICIAL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM THE BARKMORE RESORT

## Got treats?



### Paws and Play: December Newsletter Highlights!

🐾 Happy Howl-idays! December is here, and we're excited to share some festive fun with you and your furry friends. In this month's newsletter, we've got everything you need to make the season merry and bright for your pup. From holiday activities to enjoy together and a recipe for delightful dog-friendly Christmas cookies to celebrating our Dog of the Month, Maverick, the lovable Great Dane. We'll also explore whether dogs know it's Christmas and keep you updated on our special December daycare events, including photos with Santa, an ornament gift, and pictures with the Grinch. This is the season of joy and giving, and we're here to help you include your pup in all the holiday cheer. Whether you're looking for creative ways to bond with your dog or need inspiration for a festive treat, we've got you covered. Spread the holiday cheer by donating to our shelter supply drive and help bring warmth and joy to animals in need this season! 🐾



### Holiday Activities With Fido

The Christmas season is here, and your dogs are loving the excitement! While they may not fully understand the decorations and sweet smells, they can definitely feel the festive energy. This year, why not start some new holiday traditions with your pup? Here are a few ideas:

1. Hang a Stocking Just For Them. Get your dog involved in the tradition of hanging stockings! You can buy or make one, but be sure to wait until Christmas Day to fill it with treats—your dog's nose might lead them to sneak a peek early!
2. Bake holiday doggie treats! Recipe on page 2 of *Bark News*
3. Include Them in Your Christmas Card. Don't forget your dog when sending out holiday cards! Many pet owners add their dog's name, making them part of the Christmas cheer.
4. Go Look at Christmas Lights. Bundle up and take your dog on a walk to enjoy the Christmas lights! It's a fun family activity, great exercise, and a perfect time for a potty break.
6. Donate to a Shelter. Give back this season by donating unused toys, beds, or food to a local shelter. It's a great way to spread some holiday love to pups in need. We have a donation box in the lobby for shelter donations! 🐾

### Upcoming Daycare Events

DECEMBER 4TH  
SANTA PHOTOS



DECEMBER 11TH  
ORNAMENT GIFT



DECEMBER 18TH  
GRINCH PHOTOS



JOIN THE HOWL-IDAY  
FUN WITH US!





# Holiday Cookies for Dogs



The holiday season is all about indulging— parties, family gatherings, and delicious treats are everywhere. So, why not let our furry friends join in on the festive fun with a little treat of their own? Treat your pup to some indulgence with healthy homemade dog treats packed with sweet potato, peanut butter, whole oats, and a dash of cinnamon.

## Ingredients:

- 2 cups fresh sweet potato puree; 1 egg; 1/2 cup oats; 3 cups whole wheat flour; 3 Tbsp of all natural peanut butter; 1/2 tsp cinnamon

## Instructions:

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.
- Peel and cube two medium sweet potatoes and bring to a boil. Reduce to low and simmer approx 15-20 minutes or until soft. Drain potatoes and puree them.
- In small bowl, stir together the flour, oats, and cinnamon.

- In a separate large bowl, whisk together the egg, sweet potato and peanut butter until combined. Stir wet ingredients into dry.
- Pour onto a floured surface and roll dough out to 1/4 - 3/8 thick. Cut out using Christmas cookie cutter. The dough will be a little sticky, dust your hands and the rolling pin with a little flour to help!
- Bake for 30 to 35 minutes until golden brown.
- Place on cooling racks and let cool thoroughly. They will harden as they cool.

Serve and watch the tails wag!!

## Paws-itively Pawsome Pooch of the Month

🐾 Meet Maverick, our larger-than-life Great Dane and this month's star pup! Towering above his canine friends, Maverick is not just big in size but also in personality. This gentle giant has a heart as vast as his paws and a knack for stealing the spotlight—and everyone's hearts. Maverick's day typically starts with an enthusiastic tail wag that could practically knock over a small table. He loves greeting everyone he meets, whether it's staff, visitors, or his four-legged buddies. His playful energy fills the room, but what stands out most is his gentle demeanor. We're thrilled to celebrate Maverick as our Dog of the Month. His big personality and even bigger heart remind us every day why we adore our furry companions. Here's to Maverick, the gentle giant who proves that love and joy come in all sizes! 🐾



## Do Dogs know it's Christmas?



Dogs likely don't realize it's Christmas, but they are excellent at recognizing patterns. They pick up on changes in their environment and associate them with specific events. For example, during Christmas, they may notice new decorations, unfamiliar visitors, cheerful music, flashing lights, and other festive changes, leading them to anticipate similar occurrences in the future. From your dog's perspective, Christmas means lots of tempting "toys" under the tree. Those beautifully wrapped gifts might look like the perfect chewables! Since dogs see colors like people with red-green color blindness, the shiny, colorful wrapping is especially irresistible.

The holidays bring plenty of excitement, but your furry friend might see things a little differently. All that delicious food can be tempting, but many holiday treats—like chocolate, raisins, and splintering meat bones—are dangerous for dogs. Instead of sharing your plate, keep them safe with dog-friendly chews or interactive toys to keep them busy. With all the hustle and bustle, it's easy to forget your pup's needs. Stick to their routine as much as possible, and if the festivities get overwhelming, provide a quiet, safe space where they can relax. Be sure to supervise them around potential hazards like trash, cords, or decorations.

The holidays are also a great time to spoil your pup with special gifts, such as enrichment toys or tasty treats—after all, they're always on the Nice List! However, holiday cheer can sometimes confuse them, especially if you've been enjoying a few drinks. Keep alcohol far out of reach, as it's highly toxic to dogs and can lead to serious health issues. Lastly, with new guests coming and going, some dogs may feel excited, while others may get stressed. A familiar toy, crate, or quiet space can help them stay calm and safe, ensuring everyone enjoys the festivities.