



Humane Society of
Western Montana

Puppy Kindergarten

Congratulations on giving your puppy a great start in life! Raising a puppy can be a rewarding and challenging experience. Our goal at the **Humane Society of Western Montana** is to help owners understand their dogs' behaviors and learn how to create a partnership of mutual understanding and communication. Training and raising a puppy should be fun and effective. We are committed to positive reinforcement and reward based training so that puppies and their owners achieve their goals and enjoy the journey!

Puppy Kindergarten is an Open Enrollment class, meaning your puppy can start anytime... no reservations required! Your puppy is welcome in class as long as she is 8-16 weeks of age and 10 days out from her first distemper/parvovirus vaccination.

The two easy steps are:

1. Fill out the one-time registration form on our website any time before you attend your first class.
2. Pack the necessary items for class and arrive to class 10 minutes early to pay and give your puppy a potty break before class!

WHEN: Every Wednesday from 6:00-6:45pm. Class is not held during major holidays.

WHERE: In the Humane Society training room, which is located through the sliding glass doors in the lower parking lot of our shelter. The address is: 5930 Hwy 93 South, Missoula MT 59804.

COST: A package of four classes is \$40. For older puppies or tricky schedules, we offer pay-per-class options as well. If age allows, we recommend having your puppy attend four puppy classes before continuing on to our Basic Manners group class.

PLEASE BRING:

- Your puppy wearing a collar or harness, and 6' leash
- A bag or treat pouch with plenty of small, soft treats (ex. cheese, chicken, Zukes, etc.)
- Your puppy's vaccination records, required at your puppy's first class only
 - You can email the vaccination records by sending them to tiff.shao@myHSWM.org

SUGGESTIONS:

- Check out our re-Tail store at the shelter for any training supplies you might need! We sell leashes, harnesses, treats, treat pouches, and more! We also have ID tags and microchips at reduced prices.
- Please arrive 10-15 minutes early to give your puppy a potty break before entering the classroom. You can also take this time to purchase any necessary materials and pay for class.
- Children are welcome to attend! It is wonderful for puppies to interact with well behaved children! However, people do not interact with puppies while they socialize. Children are expected to stay in their seats during the class.
- Please turn your cell phones off before class.
- If your puppy seems ill, please do not bring her to class.

If you have any questions, please email Tiff at tiff.shao@myHSWM.org, or call her at (406) 549-3934.

We look forward to training with you and your puppy!

We Can Help! The Training and Behavior Department at the Humane Society of Western Montana has a variety of resources available to help you and your pets live in harmony. The Humane Society has several dog trainers and behaviorists on staff to provide affordable group and private training lessons and free behavior consultations.

- Contact behavior@myhswm.org or calling the Behavior Helpline at (406) 549-9295.
- Check out our website at www.myhswm.org for a complete listing of dog classes, rates and additional information.