



Canine Life Skills Courses At Mount Carmel Animal Hospital

We believe that all dogs deserve training and a responsible owner. Basic training courses are an important component of responsible pet ownership. Training classes for your new puppy teach you how to communicate with your new addition most effectively. They also provide an opportunity for your dog to socialize with other dogs and learn basic skills. Organized classes also provide an opportunity to learn about housetraining, unwanted chewing, and executing basic commands in every day situations.

Mount Carmel Animal Hospital is pleased to offer Canine Life Skills Courses for all ages. With multiple levels, we have a course that is right for you and your canine companion. (Please see reverse side for detailed descriptions.) Whether your furry friend is a new puppy, an adult addition to your family, or an old familiar friend, we can help. You CAN teach old dogs new tricks!

All courses will consist of 6 one-hour sessions. The courses are designed to teach the handler a wide range of skills needed to foster a good relationship with the dog. Our goal is to create a well-behaved canine companion and a well-socialized pet able to engage positively with other dogs. Emphasis is placed on developing trust and communication between handler and dog.

Class participants may attend classes on their schedule. Our courses are not designed on a strict 6 consecutive week schedule. If your schedule makes it necessary to skip a week, no problem. If it would work best to attend a Tuesday class one week and a Thursday class the next week, no problem. We do ask that you register in advance so that our staff can plan accordingly and we can keep the number of participants to a level to permits each student to receive the attention they require. For Level 1 and Level 2 courses, we strongly recommend you attend three consecutive weeks at the start in order to provide your dog with consistency and the best opportunity for learning.

We welcome an additional family member to attend training with your pet. The more members of the household who are familiar with handling techniques, the better. We welcome children to participate in training alongside an adult handler. Our trainers will bring one of their trained dogs for your child to work with and follow along with lessons. Working with a trained dog helps build skills and confidence that will help your child to be better able to handle your new addition as the dog matures and builds skills.

The goals detailed for each training course are general. The ability for handler and dog to reach these goals can be dependent upon the maturity and distractibility of the dog. Additionally, the owner's ability and willingness to work with their dog at home is a significant factor in skill development. Each dog will be treated as an individual with his or her own unique personality. We will do our best to help each and every dog (and handler) achieve these goals!

Current Class Schedule – WINTER 2017

Please contact a member of our Reception Team to confirm availability and reserve your preferred time slot.
Call 410-343-0200 or email Receptionist@MCAHonline.com

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Level 1	3:00 – 4:00 PM	12:30 – 1:30 PM			5:30 – 6:30 PM
Level 2		6:45 – 7:45 PM	11:00 – 12:00 noon	5:30 – 6:30 PM	
Level 3	6:45 – 7:45 PM			11:00 – 12:00 noon	

Updated 12/12/16

Puppy Life Skills Course \$150 per student

- For puppies 3-6 months of age OR puppies under 12 months who have not previously had any training.
- Goals: At the end of 6 classes most puppies will be able to
 - Walk on a loose leash with distractions such as people and other puppies 5 feet away
 - Sit when handler stops, with some help. Some corrections will still be necessary
 - Sit, down and stand on command. Food may still be used to get puppy to obey
 - Do a one minute sit stay and three minute down stay while on leash and in a group setting with owner 4-6 feet away
 - Sit for exam and allow examiner to pick up front feet, ears and lips
 - Do a recall to owner from 15 feet away
 - With handler, approach another handler and puppy and have the dogs under control and sitting for a brief introduction

Beginner Life Skills Course \$150 per student

- For puppies 6-12 months of age OR puppies under 12 months who have some training.
- Goals: At the end of 6 classes most puppies will be able to
 - Walk on a loose leash in heel position with distractions. Some corrections will still be needed
 - Sit every time the handler stops
 - Sit, down and stand on command without food and with distractions
 - Begin to respond to hand signals
 - Do a 3 minute sit stay and a 5 minute down stay in a group setting
 - Do a 20 foot recall with dogs and toys along the path
 - Stand for exam with handler touching head, shoulders, and rump
 - Sit while examiner brushes him/her

Novice Life Skills Course \$150 per student

- For puppies 12-24 months of age OR adult dogs new to your home with or without previous training
- Goals: dogs will improve on basic skills and
 - Become more proficient at heel on lead and begin off lead heeling
 - Be exposed to noise distractions and able to maintain focus
 - Work in pairs and in opposite circles for visual distraction
 - Be able to do sit and down stays of 3-5 minutes with distractions
 - Be able to do a sit or down stay for 5 minutes with the handler out of sight and the leash being held by the instructor
 - Be able to do a 20 foot recall with other dogs walking around and food and toys along the path

Individual Training Sessions \$75 per one-hour session

- Work one-on-one with one of our experienced trainers regarding your dog's specific needs
- This is a great option for handlers with very specific and unique concerns or goals

Required Vaccinations – participants must be current on the following:

- Rabies
- DHPP or DHLPP (Canine Distemper)
- Bordetella (Kennel Cough)

For dogs younger than 4 months, please discuss with an MCAH team member