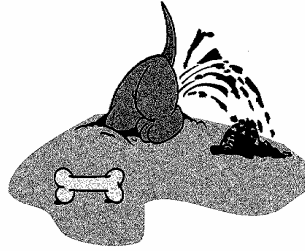


Gardening with Pets

Gardening with pets can very often be a challenge to say the least!

Dogs and the Garden

They say that if your dog sees you digging, then they will dig too. I think most dog just like to dig, it's in their nature. Some breeds of dogs have been bred to hunt out rodents and therefore they love to dig in the soil. It's just unfortunate when they dig its usually right where you have just planted your spring flowering bulbs. There are more reasons that dogs dig; they bury and recover bones, dig pits in the soil that will be cooler when its hot out and warmer when its cold out, they dig up prey and they also dig dens. Lack of exercise, confinement and boredom can cause dogs to dig and from there it can quickly become a bad habit. One simple solution is to give your dog a along the lines of a sandbox you would give kids to feet and about 2 feet deep will do the trick. Loosen sand so there is good drainage in the rainy seasons Take some of your dog toys and chewy's over to the you bury the toys in the dirt. Then call the dog over toys, once he gets the idea, praise him and say "Dig that he digs up, play with the dog for a short time bury it again and repeat this over and over, always and give lots of praise when the dog digs in the pit. You can continually reward your dog; bury toys and treats in the pit each morning before you go to work. The dog will spend all day digging up the buried items and he will keep digging even if he has found all the goodies, because he doesn't know that's all there was.

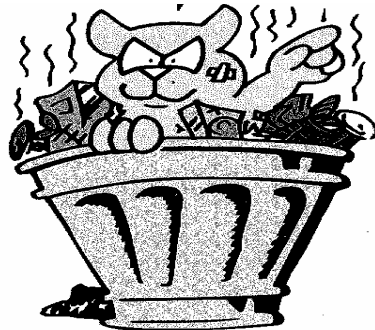


digging pit, something play in. An area 3 X 6 the soil and add some (year round in BC). pit and let the dog see and help him dig up the in your pit". If it's a toy with the toy and then saying "Dig in your pit"

Cats and the Garden

Cat can also be little helpers in the flowerbeds, especially the areas close to the house. If the soil is loose and dry, it will attract cats from all over the neighborhood. They probable tell their friends, "Have you been over to the Smith house, they have a giant litter box just outside the front door." There are some commercial treatments that you can use to try and keep the cats and dogs out of your garden.

The thing is that cats have mark their territory with their tails, on each side of underside of their front against you, the furniture is mine" in that he is very territorial and marking garden too. However the cat but all the other cats in in and marks the garden, to stake claim again, and



an incredible sense of smell, and therefore their scent. Cats have scent glands along their forehead, on their lips, chin and on the paws. So, every time your cat is rubs up or scratches the furniture, he is saying "This marking the items with his scent. Cats being their territory with their scent goes for the garden is an open target for not only your the neighborhood too. If another cat comes then your cat will mark over the same area so on it goes.

Some suggestions that have been told to me in regards to keeping cats out of the flowerbeds: sprinkle cayenne pepper over the garden, bury chicken wire just under the soil level, so they can't dig down.

Animals and the Weather

All animals react to extreme weather change differently. Animals having fear of thunderstorms, fireworks and other loud noises is a very common behavior disorder in both cats and dogs. Animals can sense and hear things long before humans can, therefore they may start to whine or whimper, stand still and shake or some may compulsively chew, either on themselves or something close by (furniture, doors, flooring). Some may even dig, now how did we get back to digging again? There are drugs available at your local veterinarian that will calm the animal; however there are always both the positive and negative behavior changes in your pets when they have been medicated. It is wise to try and distract the animal from the noise that is going on around them. Play the TV or radio in the background and spend extra time with them playing games.