

Thank you for your interest in Steady Dog Training and giving us the opportunity to work with you and your dog. To make the most of your valuable time, please do the following:

### Before the Consult

1. Please potty your dog about a half-hour before the outdoor appointment.
2. Please secure your dog 10-15 minutes before the appointment in a crate or in a room. This prevents your dog from practicing behaviors we might be trying to fix from the very start.
3. If you are using a food reward, do not feed your dog a full meal within 2-hours prior to consult. It is very important for your dog to be excited for the food/treats during the time you set aside for training. You should begin to set aside a portion of your dog's daily kibble for training time.
  - a. Prepare several small bags: one with kibble and 2 with treats. Do not mix kibble and treats together.

### At the Consult (IN-PERSON 90-min)

**SAFETY ADJUSTMENTS:** Social distancing is required and therefore training will take place outdoors. Masks are required to be worn by all parties.

1. Quick review of paperwork
2. Observations and Questions about your dog's behaviors
3. Demonstrations of techniques to use with your dog
4. Sharing of resources & final questions to build a training plan

### After the Consult

- You will receive a PDF write-up with observations, hypotheses suggestions and resources for your training plan.

### Basic Training Terms:

**Engagement** - means your dog is listening to you and learning desired behaviors

**Reinforcement** – An increase in the strength of a behavior due to its consequences

**Marker** - a sound ::click:: or a word, "Yes!" predicts a reward is coming. The marker is used at the exact moment that the dog performs a desired behavior → so they will want to continue performing that behavior

**Reward:** *anything* your dog finds reinforcing (pleasurable)

**Luring** - refers to the action of physically gesturing and luring your dog into a position. Food is used initially in the lure, and then faded quickly