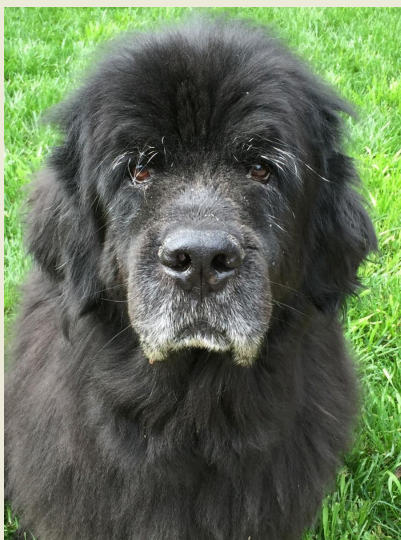


NEWFOUNDLAND CLUB OF AMERICA

Breeder's Corner



Caring for the Elders: The Breeder's Lifelong Responsibility



Responsible dog breeding doesn't end with whelping or winning ribbons, it extends into the twilight years of every dog's life. Expert breeders understand that the care and well-being of elderly and retired breeding dogs are not just a moral obligation, but a vital aspect of demonstrating the integrity and longevity of a breeding program.

These senior dogs are living proof of a breeder's long-term vision: their physical and mental soundness in old age reflects the strength of the lines they produced. Longevity, health, and temperament in later years are benchmarks of success that can't be faked in a show ring. By maintaining these elders with the same devotion as the stars of today, breeders set a powerful example, honoring the foundation of their lines and providing invaluable insight into inherited traits, aging patterns, and overall resilience.

Caring for retired dogs also speaks to the heart of ethical breeding: a lifelong commitment to every dog brought into the world. It's not just expert care, it's expert stewardship.

Grooming Considerations for Senior Newfoundlands

As Newfoundland dogs age, regular grooming becomes more than a matter of appearance—it becomes essential to their health, comfort, and quality of life. Their thick, water-resistant coats, which once served them well in work and play, can become a burden if not carefully maintained, especially in their senior years.

Older Newfoundlands may move less, lie down more, and have difficulty grooming themselves. This makes them more prone to matting, skin infections, pressure sores, and

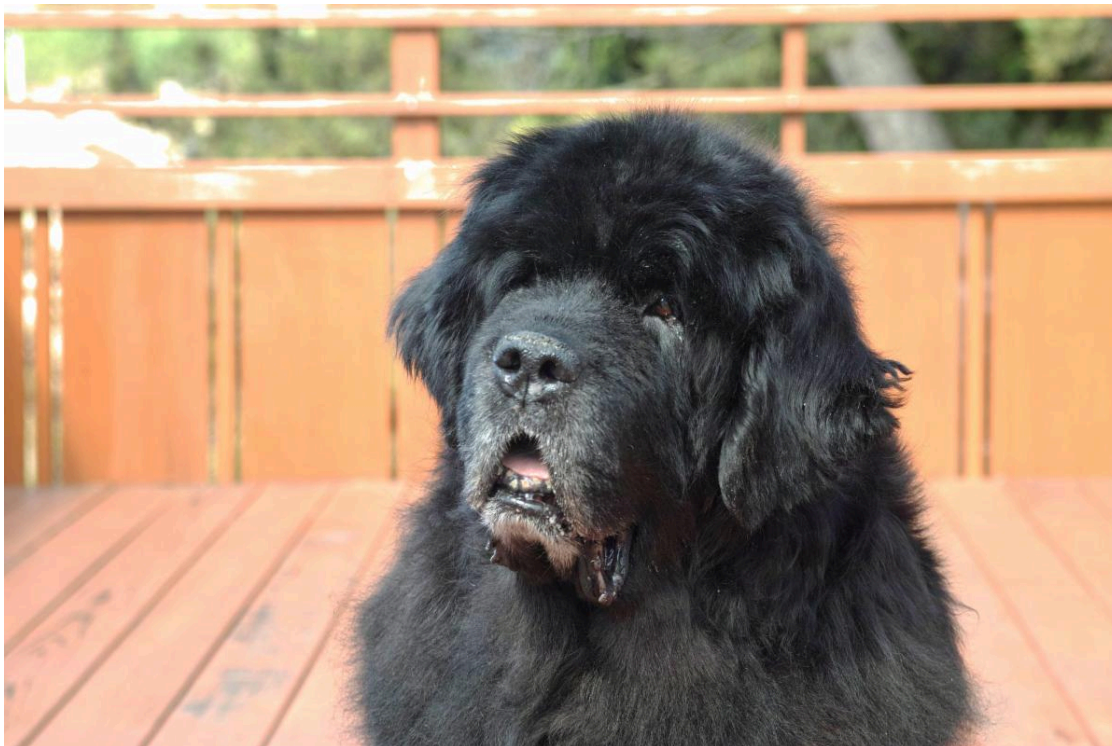


painful hot spots—issues that can develop quickly beneath a dense coat. Routine brushing not only keeps their coat clean and free of tangles, but also promotes circulation and gives owners the opportunity to check for lumps, wounds, or other changes that might otherwise go unnoticed.

Sterilization, often done at the end of a breeding career, can also impact coat texture—especially in Newfoundlands. After spaying or neutering, many dogs experience a softening or thickening of the coat, sometimes leading to a woollier, more unruly texture that mats more easily and requires more frequent and thorough grooming.

In addition to coat care, regular attention to nails, ears, and sanitary trimming is critical. Overgrown nails can alter gait and exacerbate joint issues, while unclean ears may lead to chronic infections. For seniors with arthritis or mobility challenges, gentle, compassionate grooming becomes a form of physical therapy—helping them stay limber and more comfortable.

For an aging Newfoundland, grooming isn't vanity—it's a vital part of well-being, dignity, and continued connection with their people. Regular care supports both their physical health and their emotional bond with the hands that care for them.



Caring for Older Dogs - Senior Dog Care | RSPCA

Dogs live for an average of around 12 years, although many live for much longer and individual animals age at different rates. There is no one perfect way to care for your pet as they grow older. Every dog and every situation is different, but regular health checks are really important for ageing animals so health problems can be detected as early as possible. This can help prevent and manage disease, can be less costly and will help give your pet a better quality of life.

[Read More](#)

What are the most common signs of Canine Cognitive Dysfunction (CCD)?

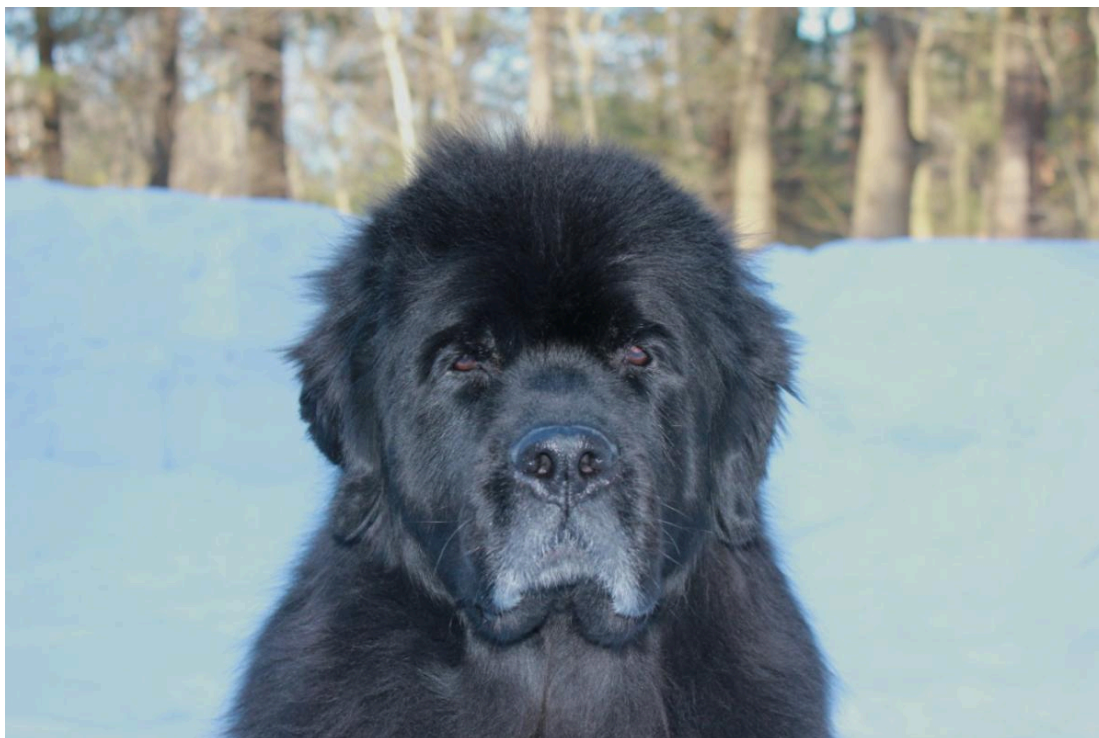
Changes in Social Interaction

Sleep-Wake cycle changes

Increased Anxiety

House Soiling

All of the Above



The expanding universe of canine aging science - Veterinary Practice News

Aging is the single most important risk factor for disability, disease, and, ultimately, death in adult dogs.¹ It has long been viewed as inevitable and immutable, but decades of scientific research have demonstrated aging is more appropriately understood as a modifiable risk factor for these negative health outcomes.

Aging is simply biology—a set of cellular and molecular processes that progressively reduce the physiologic and functional capacity of dogs to maintain a state of health and well-being.^{2,3} The better we understand that biology, the greater our ability to mitigate the impact of aging with medical interventions and to extend lifespan and healthspan.

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Senior Dog Revolution offers courses, podcasts, consults and other resources specializing in senior dog care.

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Anticipatory Grief with Senior Dogs

Dr. Lisa Lippman DVM, co-founder of the PetLoss Community and Dr. Katie Lawlor, clinical psychologist, Director of the Veterinary Mental Health Initiative join host Dr. Monica Tarantino to explore the concepts behind anticipatory grief and how it can impact your relationship with your aging dog.

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North Carolina: Senior Dogs: Targeting Frailty To Improve Healthspan and Well-Being. 12 visits to NC State Veterinary Hospital for

and contentedly is a natural priority. And no one knows how to ensure healthy aging better than the renowned faculty of the Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine, who treat more than eight thousand older dogs annually. Good Old Dog brings their renowned expertise into your living room, providing you with essential advice on nutrition, health, and caretaking to see your dog through the golden years.

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dogs over 10 in otherwise good health. [More Information](#)

Hungary: Does Lifetime Activity Influence Cognitive Aging? ELTE Eötvös Loránd University [More Information](#)

Dog Aging Project: Test of Rapamycin in Aging Dogs (TRIAD). Normally aging dogs at least 7 years old. [More Information](#)

Puppy Referral System

The NCA has a Puppy Referral System. This program allows any NCA member to list a planned litter, puppies available or an adult needing placement. Listings are now available to all NCA members. If you have questions or suggestions about the program, please [let us know](#).

[Start a New Listing](#)



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The Newfoundland Club of America aspires to be a vibrant, sustainable, and inclusive community of enthusiasts recognized as the leading voice for the preservation, protection, promotion, and celebration of the Newfoundland Dog.



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