

Frequently Asked Questions About The Canine Good Citizen Program

What is the Canine Good Citizen Program?

The AKC Canine Good Citizen (CGC) program is recognized as the gold standard for dog behavior. It is designed to reward dogs who exhibit good behavior in the community. The two-part program focuses on responsible pet ownership for handlers, and good manners for dogs. The program is designed to ensure that dogs will always be respected members of the community.

How does it work?

Dog owners commit to the Responsible Dog Owners Pledge and complete the Canine Good Citizen Test with their dog.

What is on the test?

The test consists of 10 steps to demonstrate basic obedience in public.

1. The dog will accept a friendly stranger, allow them to approach and speak to owner.
2. The dog will sit politely for petting from a friendly stranger as allowed by owner.
3. The dog will permit ears & teeth to be checked as a veterinarian would.
4. The dog will walk politely on a loose lead with the owner.
5. The dog will walk politely on a lead through a crowd allowing people to pass.
6. The dog must demonstrate sit, down & stay on command. Owner may choose stay position.
7. The dog must come to the owner when called from at least 10 feet away.
8. The dog will allow another person with a dog to approach the owner and shake hands.
9. The dog must demonstrate a reasonable reaction to a loud noise or sudden distraction.
10. The dog will maintain good manners when left with a trusted person.

What do you get for passing the Sutherlin Woofstock Canine Good Citizen Test?

Dog owners receive a Sutherlin Woofstock CGC certificate of completion & acknowledgment of their Responsible Dog Owners Pledge. Dogs receive special identification to publicly identify them as a Canine Good Citizen.

How does the program help business owners?

The Sutherlin Woofstock Canine Good Citizen Program helps business owners identify responsible pet owners and well behaved dogs in the community. By supporting the CGC Program you are contributing to public education. The CGC Program is an effective tool against "Fake Service Dogs". The Sutherlin Woofstock Canine Good Citizen Program is designed to DISCOURAGE people from FRAUDULANTLY identifying their dogs as Service Dogs just to take their places. Instead, the CGC Program provides an alternative and ENCOURAGES responsible pet ownership and structured obedience.

How does a business utilize the program?

Pet friendly business owners display the Sutherlin Woofstock Canine Good Citizen logo on the front door as a signal that Canine Good Citizens are welcome. Businesses may choose to also have a "No Pet Policy" and only grant access to Service Dogs & Canine Good Citizens. Dogs that do not behave according to Service Dog or CGC standards may respectfully be asked to leave.

Where can I get more information?

You can print or download detailed information about Sutherlin Woofstock Canine Good Citizen Program at www.SutherlinWoofstock.com

Canine Good Citizen Responsible Dog Owners Pledge

I will be responsible for my dog's health needs, these include:

Routine veterinary care including check-ups, vaccines, regular bathing and grooming; adequate nutrition through proper diet, clean water at all times and daily exercise.

I will be responsible for my dog's safety.

I will properly control my dog by providing fencing where appropriate, not letting my dog run loose, and using a leash in public.

I will ensure that my dog has some form of identification when appropriate (which may include collar tags, tattoos, or microchip ID).

I will provide adequate supervision when my dog and children are together.

I will not allow my dog to infringe on the rights of others.

I will not allow my dog to run loose in the neighborhood.

I will not allow my dog to be a nuisance to others by barking while in the yard, in a hotel room, etc.

I will pick up and properly dispose of my dog's waste in all public areas such as on the grounds of hotels, on sidewalks, parks, etc.

I will pick up and properly dispose of my dog's waste in wilderness areas, on hiking trails, campgrounds and in off-leash parks.

I will be responsible for my dog's quality of life.

I understand that basic training is beneficial to all dogs.

I will give my dog attention and playtime.

I understand that owning a dog is a commitment in time and caring.