



# Finding permanent adoptive homes for homeless Labs

## New Orleans Lab Rescue

[www.nolalabrescue.org](http://www.nolalabrescue.org)

June 2017

### Help for Tres

Uno, dos, TRES!!! Meet our newest NOLA member Tres. He is a 7 month old Lab mix that was found caught in a hunting trap. Unfortunately it resulted in the loss of his rear leg at the shelter we obtained him from. NOLA brought him into our care and upon evaluation it was discovered that his remaining rear leg was also in need of attention. Tres recently went through a Femoral Head Osteotomy (FHO) and will require extensive rehabilitation over the next 2-3 months. This will be a difficult recovery for Tres. Being an amputee makes the recovery process significantly longer and more complicated. He will be attending rehabilitation 3 times a week. This will include underwater treadmill, cold and heat therapy, therapeutic laser and therapeutic ultrasound, neuromuscular electro-stimulation, and specialized muscle re-education exercises. There are several ways you can help Tres.



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He has a fundraiser at.....  
<https://www.youcaring.com/tresfosterfornolalabrescue-830280>

One of our amazing volunteers is offering her Florida condo located in beautiful Perdido Key, FL to one of our lucky donors. Great location, only steps from the beach and best of all sleeps 6!! Every donation of \$50.00 or more will give you 1 entry into the drawing. (\$100 = 2

entries and so on) One lucky donor will get to enjoy 5 days and 4 nights in this fully furnished one bedroom, with additional built in hallway bunk beds and a queen size pull out sofa. From the balcony is a beautiful view of the pool and gulf!!! There are some dates already booked for summer, but still have some availability! You will have 1 year from the drawing to book this fabulous vacation! Subject to holiday blackouts.

You can also visit FURnomenal Collars - [https://www.etsy.com/shop/FURnomenalCollars?ref=profile\\_shopicon](https://www.etsy.com/shop/FURnomenalCollars?ref=profile_shopicon)

all sales until June 30th will benefit our sweet Tres.

NOLA Lab Rescue always accepts donations to our PayPal account. [NolaLabRescue@gmail.com](mailto:NolaLabRescue@gmail.com)

### A Celebration for the Dogs!

It is time to start thinking about our annual Celebration for the Dogs, Oct. 21st. We are currently looking for sponsors and have some thoughtful sponsorship gifts. If you or someone you know would be interested in being a sponsor, let us know and we will send you the



sponsorship packet with all the information and donation levels. Also needed are items for the raffle and silent auction. Send us an email at [nolalabrescue@gmail.com](mailto:nolalabrescue@gmail.com) if you can help us out or would like to volunteer.

The event has been very successful in past years and everyone has a good time! As always, there will be great food, and an open bar. This year we are bringing back the costume contest and we added a comedian. So, laughs are guaranteed.

## Ask the Vet



GUIDRY ANIMAL HOSPITAL  
500 EAST GLORIA SWITCH ROAD  
LAFAYETTE, LA 70507  
(337)706-VETS (8387)  
DR. TAL GUIDRY, DVM

### Wellness Exams: What Are We Checking For?

A good wellness exam starts with observing the pet: how it walks and stands, does it seem energetic and alert, and what is its body condition: too fat? too thin? This is a good time to discuss your pet's diet (including treats) and exercise.

Next we examine the haircoat. Is it thick and shiny or brittle and coarse? Is the skin clean or is it flaky and greasy? We also examine the pet for skin or subcutaneous (just below the skin) bumps and lumps and make a determination based on size, appearance, and other factors if further testing is needed to diagnose the cause of lump.

An eye exam is also done, looking at the eyelids, evidence of excessive tearing or redness, cloudiness and problems with the cornea. We also examine for the presence of eyelashes or skin folds that rub on the surface of the eye. If needed, a more thorough exam can be done using an ophthalmoscope to look into the interior of the eye.

Next up is a check of the ears. The majority of our patients have problems with their ears at one time or another. This can include ear mites, ear infections (bacterial, yeast, or a combination of both), ear hematomas (swelling due to a pool of blood that builds

up between the skin and cartilage of the ear flap), etc. It is important to take a swab of any discharge or wax that is present, smear it on a microscope slide and stain it, and perform a microscopic cytology to diagnose exactly what is causing the discharge and inflammation. Only by doing this can we prescribe the correct medication(s). An otoscope is used to look down into the ear canal as well.

Another important aspect of the physical exam while we are still on the pet's face/head is an exam of its mouth (temperament permitting!). We are looking for the presence of tartar buildup on the teeth, gum disease, retained baby teeth, broken or discolored teeth, ulcers, and tumors. It has been reported that by the age of two, 80 percent of dogs and 70 percent of cats have some form of periodontal disease. If left unchecked, gum disease can lead to infection, tooth loosening, bone loss, and even jaw fracture. Dogs with gum disease are at a higher risk for heart, kidney, and liver disease as well.

A very important element of a good physical exam is a thorough

auscultation, using a stethoscope to listen to the heart and lungs. We are listening for an abnormal heart rate, abnormal heart rhythm, or a heart murmur. In the lungs, we are listening for increased or decreased breath



"Let's get a sample."

sounds. Any abnormalities detected may warrant further workup, such as xrays, an ECG, or an echocardiogram.

Abdominal palpation can give us important information as well. We can feel in the areas of the kidneys, liver, stomach, spleen, intestines, and bladder to assess whether they appear to be normal and nonpainful.

We also palpate lymph nodes in the neck, in front of the shoulder, behind the thigh, etc. to feel for enlargement, which can mean infection or even cancer.

A good physical exam, performed once or twice a year, is an inexpensive way to keep a close eye on your pet and catch problems early when they can be taken care of more easily.

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## Turmeric Golden Paste

Lily Hume

We have been getting many questions about Turmeric “Golden Paste” for dogs with the number one question being what is it and what does it do?

Turmeric is a rhizomatous herbaceous perennial plant from the ginger family and is native in southern Asia. When not used fresh, the rhizomes are boiled for about 30-45 minutes and then dried in hot ovens. Afterwards, they are ground into a deep yellow powder. The powder form is what we find on the spice isle in the grocery. (Wikipedia)

There have been many studies on the use of turmeric in human medicine. Turmeric acts as an anti-inflammatory. Cancer, arthritis, allergies, kidney disease, dental disease, and digestive disease are all caused by a form of inflammation. Curcumin, the active ingredient in turmeric has worked better than aspirin and ibuprofen in humans. A UK study showed that curcumin could stop precancerous changes from becoming cancer. You can visit [www.dogsnaturallymagazine.com/turmeric-dogs](http://www.dogsnaturallymagazine.com/turmeric-dogs) to read more about the use of turmeric with links to the medical studies for humans.

Notice the use of “for humans”. There have not been many studies on the use in dogs. The main controversy is with piperine that comes from the ground black pepper used in the golden paste recipe. Black pepper increases the bioavailability of curcumin. According to <http://petfooddiva.com/golden-paste-for-pets/> some dogs have had an adverse reaction to piperine. They

recommend leaving out the black pepper. (The author could not determine what the reaction is.)

It should also be noted that curcumin might increase the risk of bleeding when given in combination with some medications such as NSAIDs, blood thinners, and antiplatelet drugs or when given with botanicals ginkgo biloba, garlic, and saw palmetto. It can also decrease the effects of some chemotherapy drugs. Please discuss the use of Turmeric with your veterinarian before adding it to your dog’s diet.

The recipe below is from.....  
[www.dogsnaturallymagazine.com/turmeric-dogs/](http://www.dogsnaturallymagazine.com/turmeric-dogs/)

### Ingredients

½ cup - organic turmeric powder (make sure it is organic turmeric powder to be sure it contains lots of curcumin.)

1 to 1 ½ cups - filtered water

1 ½ teaspoons - freshly ground black pepper (grind organic black peppercorns in a coffee grinder or magic bullet

¼ cup - organic cold pressed coconut oil.

1. Mix the turmeric with the water in a pan.
2. Start with 1 cup water and add more only if needed.
3. Stir the liquid on medium/low heat for 7 to 10 minutes. It should form a thick paste.
4. If your paste looks watery, just add a bit more turmeric and heat it for another couple of minutes.
5. Once you have a paste, add the pepper and oil, and then stir it very well.
6. Allow the mixture to cool, then place it in a jar with a lid and store it in your fridge. Ideally, you should store the paste for no more than two weeks....after that, you will want to make a fresh batch.

For additional reading about Turmeric and more recipes, visit <http://turmericlife.com.au/> This site is supported by Doug English, an Australian veterinarian who has been working with Turmeric for many years with good results for humans and pets.



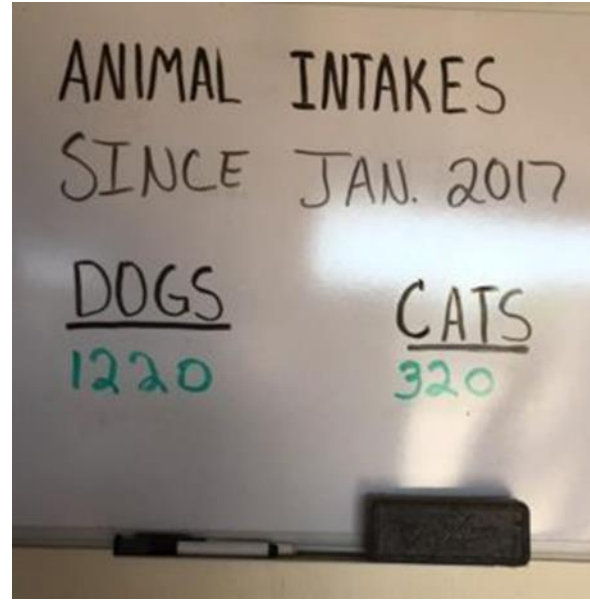
## Too Many Dogs? Managing Pet Overpopulation

Danielle Cecchine

When I adopted Ollie from a rescue, I started to read a lot about dog rescues. Why are we doing this? (Other than the obvious joy of saving a life and having another tail wagging at home.)

Pet overpopulation is a huge problem that you may know nothing about. Its not like there are packs of wild dogs and cats roaming the streets and scaring your kids, right? I have lived in countries where that is the case. I don't suggest jogging along the Moskva River in Moscow. Even if the poor air quality doesn't kill you, you will find yourself chased by a pack of homeless dogs. In the U.S., we have a pretty efficient system of Animal Control, catching strays and taking them to shelters. Such a nice word, shelter, it means to protect or shield from something harmful, to give sanctuary. The words animal shelter don't give the full truth. Perhaps we should call them temporary animal shelters. They do give sanctuary, but there is a ticking timer.

*How many homeless animals are there? Aren't there enough shelters? I know someone who adopted their dog from a shelter. Are there really so many pets being put down? People love their cats and dogs, right?*



Ouachita Parish Animal Shelter, Louisiana 1 May 2017

There are more than 13,000 shelters in the United States. In a study undertaken by Best Friends Animal Society half of those surveyed believed that approximately 500 dogs and cats are euthanized every day in American animal shelters. In fact, the estimated number is closer to 9,000 per day. The numbers are staggering, and unexpected. The ASPCA estimates just under 4 million dogs and 3 and half million cats enter American shelters each year. Of these, some are adopted and go on to live wonderful lives, yay! Nearly half of those surveyed believed that most shelter animals are either reclaimed by their owners, adopted, or rescued and waiting for their forever homes. Another prevailing misconception. In fact, more than half of these animals won't make it out of the shelter alive. 2.4 to 2.7 million healthy, adoptable cats and dogs are euthanized every year due to lack of space. Those numbers are so big that they feel meaningless. Think about it this way, one cat or dog is euthanized about every 13 seconds in America. Now do you agree that we have a problem? Okay, there are no exact, official statistics. These are all estimations. That means, it very well might be worse. Too many healthy, playful dogs and puppies, cats and kittens are being euthanized every day because animal shelters can't care for all of the accidental litters, strays and unwanted family pets that are brought to them. Yes, unwanted family pets. People abandon them because they can't afford to care for them, because they "don't have time" or don't have enough space, or they are moving, or they are having a baby. You name the reason, its been



given...It doesn't get along with the cat, the new boyfriend, the expensive furniture...so many sad excuses.

We can't rescue/foster/adopt them all. If we could, we would. Those of us that do are trying. So what can be done? Simple. Spay and neuter your pets to reduce pet overpopulation. That is the simple solution. So why aren't people doing it? Perhaps the biggest reasons are cost and ignorance. People are not aware that humane societies and municipal animal control departments offer low-cost spay/neuter services. I had a foster lab spayed this morning for \$60, which is a lot cheaper than caring for a pregnant female and then a litter of her puppies. Some places offer free spay/neuter. You just have to look.

Like the people surveyed by the Best Friends Animal Society, I didn't really understand the magnitude of the problem. Over its lifetime, an un-spayed female dog can have more than 100 puppies and a non-neutered male can father thousands. The problem is exponential. According to Spay USA, over a 6 year period, a single un-spayed female dog and her offspring can reproduce 67,000 dogs. Cats are even more prolific. A single un-spayed female cat and her offspring, producing 2 litters a year, with 2.8 surviving kittens per year, could add up to 11,606,077 cats over 9 years.

Even if you don't care about the big picture of overpopulation, and not everyone does, there are excellent reasons to spay and neuter your beloved pet. Neutered males have fewer problem behaviors related to dominance and aggression (possessiveness and food guarding, lifting their leg on everything to mark territory, and the dreaded humping). I have had two unaltered male fosters come into my home and neither stayed more than 24 hours before I had to move them to another foster home. They were lifting their legs all over the house to mark and they both showed aggression toward the largest male in the house. If you've never seen a chihuahua or a beagle pick a fight with an 80 lbs. lab-bloodhound mix...well, it wasn't going to end well.

Altered animals are simply more docile and easier to train. They are also much less likely to roam and get lost or hurt. Pets roaming to breed are a huge part of the overpopulation problem. Bailey was one of an unexpected, unwanted litter of five and the momma dog was already pregnant again when I rescued him. The owner barely had the money to feed them and was unable to pay for the existing puppies to have their vaccinations.

Sophie came to us from the shelter in heat, and even the altered males at the hotel were humping away at her, poor thing. You could see that she was agitated and that they were ready to fight for the right to be her puppy-daddy. We had her spayed as quickly as we could. There is no telling how many litters she has already had.

Ollie, Lila, and Willa all came to us from unwanted litters of puppies that were dropped off at a shelter. Eliza was dumped over the fence at a daycare center with another unwanted puppy.



Ginger was a stray that came to us after her uterus burst in labor. She was lucky to survive, her puppies were not so lucky.

Bella came to us after the man that used her as a breeder brought her to the shelter because she couldn't have any more litters. He is well known at the shelter. Any of his dogs that can't breed are trained to hunt ducks, if they don't pass their training, they get dumped at the shelter. He can't use them anymore.

There will be more. A lot more. I will save those that I can, but I can't save them all. I have to say no to quite a few.

Be responsible, spay and neuter, ensure that every pet has a family to love them.

Spay USA provides referrals to low cost sterilization programs, call 1-800-248-SPAY

We say neuter is cuter!

Here is a link to Danielle's original article that contains links to organizations mentioned. You can also read about NOLA rescue dogs as well as other rescues she fosters for on her site. [http://iffydog.com/2017/05/too-many-dogs-managing-pet-overpopulation/?fb\\_action\\_ids=10211488058170892&fb\\_action\\_types=news.publishes&fb\\_source=other\\_multiline&action\\_object\\_map=%5B1784577541556194%5D&action\\_type\\_map=%5B%22news.publishes%22%5D&action\\_ref\\_map=%5B%5D](http://iffydog.com/2017/05/too-many-dogs-managing-pet-overpopulation/?fb_action_ids=10211488058170892&fb_action_types=news.publishes&fb_source=other_multiline&action_object_map=%5B1784577541556194%5D&action_type_map=%5B%22news.publishes%22%5D&action_ref_map=%5B%5D)

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## Cooking For Your Furry Friend

Melissa Shumard

### Flea Hater's Dog Biscuits.

Makes about 5 dozen bone biscuits

1 Cup flour

1/4 Cup flour

1/4 cup wheat germ

1/4 Cup brewers yeast ( available at health food stores)

1 tsp salt

1 Tablespoon plus 1 1/2 teaspoons canola oil

1 clove garlic, chopped

1/2 Cup chicken stock plus 3 Tblsps. for basting

1. Preheat oven to 400 F. Line a cookie sheet with parchment paper. Mix flour, wheat germ, brewers yeast and salt in a medium bowl. In a mixing bowl, combine oil and garlic. Alternately add 1/2 Cup chicken stock and flour mixture. mix well until combined. Knead about 2 minutes by hand on a floured surface. Dough will be sticky.

2. On a lightly floured surface roll dough out to about 3/8 inch thick. Use a cookie cutter in any shape you want, I use a bone shape cutter. Place on the prepared baking sheet and baste with the remaining 3 tblsps. chicken stock. Bake 10 minutes. Turn off oven leaving oven door closed. Let cool for 1 1/2 hours or longer.

## Why Join NOLA?

*Our mission is to provide:*

- Permanent adoptive homes for unwanted, abandoned or abused labs.
- Medical care and foster homes for rescued dogs.
- Education to pet owners regarding spaying/neutering and responsible pet ownership.
- Public information about irresponsible breeding practices and animal abuse in an effort to end both.

*Your Membership Supports:*

- Vaccination, sterilization, heartworm prevention, and veterinary services for all dogs.
- Heartworm treatment.
- Rescue of canine seniors with high expenses.
- Orthopedic surgery for rescued dogs in need.
- Transportation of HW neg., fully vetted dogs from the overpopulated South to pre-approved foster and forever homes.



July 2017

# You can make a difference!

Contact us at : [nolalabrescue@gmail.com](mailto:nolalabrescue@gmail.com)

Donations are accepted through PayPal at:

[nolalabrescue@gmail.com](mailto:nolalabrescue@gmail.com)

We are always looking for fosters to join the team. 😊

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