

# TOPICS

## Class Description

**\$80 / 4 Weeks / 1 Hour**

**Eligibility:** All ages and all breeds welcome.

**Drop-In:** YES

**Revolving Enrollment:** NO

### **What is Topics?**

Topics class is designed to cover the most common sought after training lessons and give Basic Obedience and Real World Etiquette graduates another opportunity to improve on their skills. Below is a breakdown of each session.

**Impulse Control Workshop** – This week we will cover a variety of exercises geared towards improving your dog's self-control. Dogs by nature are impulsive creatures and it takes a good deal of training to overcome some of them. It's all about communication between owner and dog. We utilize the dog's desires and show them the appropriate behavior needed to acquire it (*e.g. the dog wants to go outside but learns he must wait patiently at the door before being allowed to exit or in order for the dog to receive the desired attention, he learns to sit politely instead of jumping*).

**Reliable Recall** – This week we will play a series of games designed to maximize your dog's willingness to come when called. This is hands down the most beneficial behavior you can teach your dog. For safety purposes dogs should learn to respond quickly to a recall. It may just save their life someday.

**Heeling and Loose Leash Walking** – One of the most common out of all the Topics covered in this course is leash pulling. This class is all about how to teach your dog not to pull. You will learn about the different training gear and find what works best for your individual needs. We also teach our dogs to look to it's handler for direction, the basics of heeling at our left side, develop an automatic sit when you stop and how to deal with distractions.

**Skills in Public** – This week class will meet either at a designated dog friendly park, restaurant or at a local Pet Supermarket. You will have the chance to work your dogs in a natural public setting under the supervision of your Trainer. Together we will tackle common problems one faces in public with their dog. Common problems one may encounter include greeting strangers, handling human interactions, leash pulling, high levels of distraction, impulse control, sniffing and/or inappropriate urination. You'll also learn how to get your dog to be calm and polite while you are making a purchase, eating or conversing with other people.

### **What to bring to class?**

- 2 different types of food rewards. Be sure they're soft, pea sized treats. Avoid dry crumbly treats.
- Something to carry treats in such as a treat bag, waist apron or be sure to wear clothing with pockets.
- 6 ft. leash and a martingale, harness, regular buckle or belt collar ONLY (*retractable leashes and choke chains are not permitted*).
- If already using a training aid please feel free to bring that as well (*e.g. no pull harness, head halter or properly fitted prong collar*)
- Travel size bed, rug or mat.
- Water bowl for keeping your dog hydrated and comfortable.
- Close toed shoes for safety (Not optional).
- A clicker (*optional*).
- A non-squeaky toy if your dog enjoys playing (*Optional*).