

Welcome Team -

Thank you for registering for Team K9 classes. I look forward to meeting you and your K9 partner soon.

Please go to the Team K9 website at <u>www.teamk9.us</u> and look under the *Resources* page for *Class Essentials*. There you will find 4 important links that need to be completed <u>before</u> classes begin.

1. **First**, click on the *Team K9 Rules and Guidelines* and read them completely. Team K9 wishes for everyone to learn and have fun in class with their K9 partner, while still creating a safe environment for all and upholding the municipality laws. By completing your registration, you agree to abide by these rules.

In regard to dog behavior on this information... there is a difference between "aggressive" dogs and "reactive" dogs. "Aggressive dogs" are easily uncontrollable and being in an environment with strangers (people and/or dogs) sets them off beyond learning comprehension. *These are not dogs who act shy or cautious.* These are dogs who would rather attack/bite if off leash. Team K9 classes are not suitable for these dogs.

"Reactive" dogs on the other hand need their space as they "react" to strangers (people and/or dogs) who cause them concern either through a lack of distancing, staring, or barking/running at them. Reactivity decreases with space between this dog and the source of their concern. With notification to Team K9 and a handler who understands their dog is reactive, Team K9 class can be a suitable environment not only for training, but to decrease reactivity tendencies, for this dog.

2. **Second**, (due at least 10 days before 1st class) click on the *Team K9 Profile Form* and download it. This document is designed so you can easily fill in the information by using your keyboard and tabbing from line to line, clicking on choice boxes, or selecting from a drop down menu or calendar date all while viewing the document in Word on your computer screen. If your dog is reactive to people and/or other dogs, please share this information on the Profile form. Also, please make sure your email address or cell phone number for texting is accurate as this will be the means of reaching you if there is inclement weather postponing classes or a change in location.

Once completed, save this document on your computer. eMail this document and proof that your dog's rabies vaccine is current (either a dated vet invoice or rabies certificate) as attachments to TeamK9.us@gmail.com . Please make sure your email includes the name you used for class registration through the rec center. Also, please look for a reply, within 24 hours, your paperwork was received. You will be required to sign this document at the beginning of the first class in order to participate.

- 3. **Third**, click on the *Team K9 Supply List* and start gathering the necessary supplies for classes. Please note you are not expected to purchase specialty supplies. Being a responsible pet owner, you should already have at minimum a flat collar, regular leash, waste disposal bags, water and treats for your K9 partner. © If you chose to purchase additional supplies, feel free to contact me first so I can help you.
- 4. **Finally**, click on the Map for your training location and make sure you know where to come for class. Dress accordingly for being outdoors. See you soon!

Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns, Cheryl Bales 972-379-TEAM (8326) TeamK9.us@gmail.com