



Kennel Club to Host Canine Behavior Specialist: Focus on Dog Bite Prevention

Canine behavior therapist and trainer Tom Toal of Bark Busters Home Dog Training will speak about dog bite prevention, safety and training on March 2nd at 8 p.m. at Apple Rehab Shelton Lakes Health Care Center, 5 Lake Road in Shelton. The talk, which is free and open to the public, is sponsored by the Trap Falls Kennel Club.

Toal's presentation will focus on safety tips for children and parents, tips on what to do when a dog approaches, and how to identify different dog temperaments (timid, nervous, shy, dominant, aggressive) and what they mean. He'll also answer questions on training your dog.

According to the American Veterinary Association and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, more than 4.7 million Americans are bitten by dogs each year. About 61 percent of all dog bites occur within pet owners' homes, and 43 percent of bites involve children bitten by the family dog.

"In keeping with responsible dog ownership, we encourage parents to attend and learn some basic guidelines of making dog bites less likely and help prevent their children from being bitten by dogs," says Laura Wells, President of Trap Falls Kennel Club.

