

Webster Animal Control



HELPFUL TIPS:

Getting your dog to bark less will take time, work, practice, and consistency. It won't happen overnight, but with proper techniques and time, you can see progress, usually within 6-months.

Here are a few tips to remember as you start your efforts to control your dog's barking:

- Shouting stimulates your dog to bark more because they think you're joining in. So, the first rule is to speak calmly and firmly, but try not to yell
- Most dogs don't know what you want when you're yelling at them to "shut up." So, train your dog to understand the word "Quiet" or "Stop"
- The word or command "No" is used far to often and for many different behaviors and this will often confuse a dog as to exactly what you are asking of them.
- A tired dog is a quiet dog. If your dog barks when alone, tire them out before you go. Take a long walk or run, play ball or take a trip to the dog park before leaving.
- Don't allow problems to go on and on. The longer a dog does something, the more ingrained it becomes.
- Barking can give dogs an adrenaline rush, which makes the barking pleasant. And allowing a dog to bark in certain situations, such as when the mailman arrives, can eventually make a dog aggressive in those situations. What if your dog gets out one day as the mail is being delivered? Deal with barking problems as quickly as possible.
- Some medical problems can cause excessive barking, from bee stings to brain disease to ongoing pain.
- Older pets can develop a form of canine senility that causes excessive vocalizations. It's always a good idea to have a pet checked by a veterinarian to be sure there's no medical reason for a problem.

