

8. Pet Interaction

It is delightful when our pets enjoy one another and play nicely together....but that isn't always the case.

Here are some important things to consider when introducing your dog to another dog:

1. **Always** have both dogs on leash.
2. **Always** ask the other owner if your dog can greet their dog.
3. If possible, have the dogs meet one another on 'neutral ground', i.e. not one dog's usual territory.
4. Don't force any interaction if they ignore one another or one seems reluctant to interact
5. Keep initial interactions brief. Allow them to sniff and greet each other for a few seconds, then the owners should lead their pet away, have them lie down, and provide a treat if they comply. This interrupts the potential of 'dominance' behaviors emerging.



Pet Management Resources

Our Valley has some very good resources for helping us train and manage our pets. Here are a few options:

1. **PetCo – 970.945.1527** – PetCo offers dog training classes and support for owners in developing good pet behaviors.
2. **Invisible Fences – 970.927.9747** – Invisible Fences provides safety, convenience, and peace of mind for pet owners who want to protect their pets (including cats) from leaving their yard.
3. **Bark Collars** – Bark collars help you develop a calmer and quieter dog. Bark collars are available at many pet supply retailers including PetCo.
4. **The Canine Consultant – 970.963.3745** – Laura Van Dyne is a Carbondale-based, certified professional dog behavior specialist who works with both dogs and owners to develop great pet/owner behaviors.

Is Your Dog a Good Neighbor?

444 River Valley Ranch Drive
Carbondale, CO 81623
Phone: 970.963.6300

www.rvrma.org



Is Your Dog a Good Neighbor?





1. Pets and Barking

Dogs bark for many reasons. They can bark when they want attention, are initiating play, or sounding a warning to another animal.

Excessive or obsessive barking **CAN** be controlled.

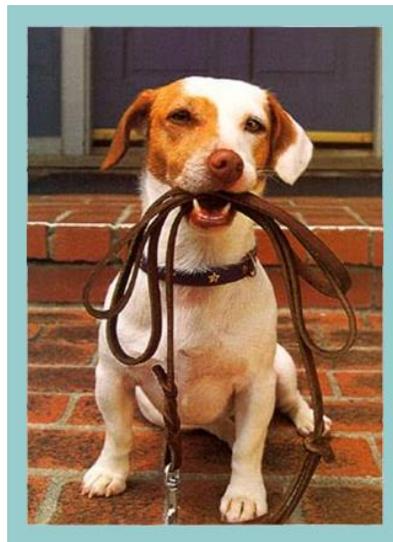
The owners of barking dogs need to understand what their options are for modifying their pet's barking behaviors. One good source of information on dog barking is the Humane Society website: http://www.humanesociety.org/animals/dogs/tips/how_to_stop_barking.html?referrer=https://www.google.com/

Be aware of the nuisance that barking might be for your neighbors and take steps to ensure others' peace is not disturbed by your pet.

2. Pets and Leashes

Per the Town of Carbondale Code and RVR policy, dogs may **NEVER** be off-leash while on RVR property.

The Town regulations specify that the leash may not be more than seven feet in length and must be made of material strong enough to restrain the dog.



3. Pets and Poop

It is important for each of us to clean up after our pets...**each and every time.**

1. Storm water carries pet waste and other pollutants directly into waterways.
2. Animal waste may contain harmful organisms such as Giardia, Salmonella and E. coli as well as roundworms and hookworms that can be transmitted to humans and other animals.
3. **It's the law!** Both RVR policies and Town of Carbondale regulations required you to pick up after your pet.
4. No one likes to step in pet waste and spread it into homes, cars and businesses.
5. It's easy to clean up by using the supplies at the conveniently located doggie stations throughout RVR.