



Create a water loving pup!

Begin your role as a K9 water coach the day your puppy discovers water as a source of pleasure, whether it be her water bowl or a country lake. Encourage wetness and fun! Avoid scolding for puddle pouncing and bathroom wading - it's an expression of water joy.

Add a baby pool to your pup's backyard playground. Fill it with warm water, toys, treats and blessings for sunshine fun. Then let your pup's curiosity do the rest.

Expose your pup to water loving dogs and let her watch them dance & frolic in the water.

Whenever your pup is exposed to water deeper than her elbow, put a life jacket on her and attach a floating lead to the jacket. Keep water play safe to keep it fun! Any unexpected dunking as a puppy can create fear and possibly a lifetime of water avoidance.

On a sunny warm day go to a safe and refreshing lake or pond. Dress the pup with her life jacket, remove any throat collars and attach a floating lead to her jacket. Toss toys and treats into the water and nestle down into the shallow water near your pup. Apply smiles, giggles and praise whenever your pup shows interest in the water. Celebrate with laughter, praise and treats when your pup attempts to explore further from shore or attempts to swim. Repeat water visits whenever the sunshine beckons you to the shoreline.

Be patient. Swimming happens when your pup is ready to try. Your job as water coach is simply to provide a safe, inviting environment where you can reward curiosity, exploration, play and any effort to swim.

Never force your dog into the water!



What comes after a dripping wet smile?

Applause! Because you just earned a Team Swim Certificate at your first CWS Test. Imagine the thrill of showing off your dog's swim talents; the cheers of support from family & friends; the public recognition for accomplishing challenging goals; and the look in your dog's eyes telling you she had a great day with you!

Want to join the splash action? Start your training today.

- Attend a CWS water test. Talk with water dog trainers while watching experienced teams work.
- Enroll in a CWS workshop, class or camp.
- Chat online with members of the Canine Water Sports group list. The group site offers upcoming event info, official administrative updates, water dog talk, training ideas and support between members.
- Read How To articles and more about water sports rules & regulations on the CWS website.



www.CanineWaterSports.com

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CANINE WATER SPORTS™!



A fantastic source of enrichment for the canine mind, body and spirit!

Wet Fun
for all kinds of
Water-Loving Dogs
and their people



What is Canine Water Sports™

Canine Water Sports™ (CWS) is an organization dedicated to promoting this great sport for water-loving dogs and their people – and providing the services and support they need to fully enjoy it. We offer:

- Water Tests for dozens of water skills
- Guidance for clubs and organizations who want to teach and host water testing events
- Achievement awards for excellence in water work
- A Water Dog Registry to record your dog's successes
- Water Sports workshops, classes & camps

There is no breed bias in this sport. Dogs of all sizes, shapes, and pedigrees love the water and deserve the opportunity to prove it. That's why Canine Water Sports was created!

Swimming builds strength, stamina and aerobic capacity while offering an alternative to high impact sports that risk injury to weight bearing joints. Canine Water Sports gives swimming an even greater purpose than exercise and conditioning. It provides the means to create useful and fun canine teamwork.

Here are some of the basic skills you and your dog can learn through Canine Water Sports:

- Canine Cooperation
- Dog & Handler Team Swim
- Retrieving Water Articles
- Delivering Articles to Boats & Swimmers
- Submerging for Water Articles
- Towing People & Boats
- Tracking Underwater Scents
- Working from a Boat

Wondering if your dog can learn any of these skills? Water loving dogs have only two limitations: desire and confidence. CWS can help you learn ways to foster both.

The Sport for Water-Loving Dogs

It all starts with a Splash!

Splash Camps

Fishing around for a great dog-along vacation that connects your mind, body and soul with the joy of life? We have just the adventure for you, Splash Camp! Three fun-filled days on a summer lake learning tail thumping good methods to shape a cooperative and useful canine beach companion. Splash Camps are for dog owners who want to enjoy a special dog-along water training vacation in a spectacular outdoor location.

The camp grants admission to less than 40 dog/owner teams, to maintain a peaceful, friendly environment that promotes intimacy between staff and campers. With multiple water instructors, you will benefit from a variety of training perspectives and a wealth of experience. Whether your goal is to just enjoy the splash action or to enter your first canine water test, our coaching staff will support and guide your progress.



Splash Workshops

Join one of our weekend workshops and we'll show you how much fun you can have with a wet dog! Our small, intimate splash workshops introduce you to water safety, useful water skills, canine fitness, teamwork and relationship enrichment. Your instructor will balance rest and activity throughout your program to reduce stress and optimize team learning.

You must be at least 18 years old to participate in a CWS training program or to exhibit in a Water Testing Event. Dogs must be at least 16 weeks old to participate in a training program and be at least 6 months old to be entered in a CWS test.

Basic Safety Equipment



Basic Safety Equipment

You will need

- A government approved life vest
- Pealess water safety whistle
- Water shoes & swim wear
- T-shirt & shorts over swim wear, (to provide protection against enthusiastic paws)
- Treats, water toys, praise and a generous nature

Your dog will need

- A water durable nonrestrictive harness
- A good quality canine life jacket
- A short floating safety lead attached to your dog's harness or jacket

Visit **The Nautical Dog Store** at www.caninewatersports.com to purchase your water sports equipment, fun nautical & marine theme toys, training treats and more. (Online ordering coming soon)

