

Mason & Dixon Kennel Club

Boonsboro, USA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MASON & DIXON KENNEL CLUB OFFERS NEW AKC S.T.A.R. PUPPY TRAINING PROGRAM TO DOG OWNERS

-- Local Pups Take Their First Steps Towards Becoming
AKC Canine Good Citizens®--

MASON & DIXON KENNEL CLUB announces that it is administering a new American Kennel Club® (AKC) training program geared towards puppies and their owners. The AKC S.T.A.R.sm Puppy Program rewards responsible owners who take the time to train and socialize their new puppies. The program is a natural precursor to the AKC Canine Good Citizen® Test. "S.T.A.R." stands for **S**ocialization, **T**raining, **A**ctivity and a **R**esponsible owner, all of the things a puppy needs to have a good life.

The AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy program teaches dogs and their owners the first important steps to becoming responsible members of the community, It is our hope to diminish the number of dogs relinquished to shelters through the education offered by the AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy Program."]

To get started, owners enroll in the S.T.A.R Puppy class instructed by Mason & Dixon Kennel Club trainers. Classes will include valuable training tips for puppy owners - such as how to house train - and lessons on practical skills for puppies -such as coming when called. The program is open to all dogs. Puppies can begin training as soon as they have the necessary vaccines they can enroll in AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy at any point up until their first birthday.

"Early training and socialization are key to having a well behaved dog," **We hope to teach owners how to start their pups off on the right paw from the very beginning.**

At the end of the training course, the instructor will administer the AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy test. Upon passing, owners and their puppies will be enrolled in the AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy Program and will receive an AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy package which includes:

- A frameable certificate
- AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy medal
- AKC Puppy Handbook
- Discount enrollment in AKC Companion Animal Recovery
- Subscription to monthly e-mail newsletter that includes training tips

All graduates will also be encouraged to continue training and work towards a Canine Good Citizen (CGC).

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To sign up for classes come April 1st at 6:00pm. All registration forms can be completed then. Be sure and bring your puppies shot records, a leash, flat collar, squeak toy and treats.

For more information on AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy, see
www.akc.org/starpuppy

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