



FAQ About the Inhumane Practices of Dog Tethering

1. What is meant by dog chaining or dog tethering?

Chaining or tethering refers to the practice of tying a dog to a stationary object as a means of keeping the animal confined. This does not refer to periods when animals are being walked on a leash.

2. What are the problems associated with dog tethering?

- **Continuous chaining is inhumane and unsafe for dogs.** Dogs are, by nature, social beings who thrive on interaction with people and other animals. A dog kept chained in one spot for months or even years suffers immense psychological damage. A continuously chained dog usually becomes neurotic, anxious, and aggressive. In many cases, the necks of chained dogs become raw and infected from too-tight collars. Dogs have been found with collars embedded in their necks, the result of years of neglect at the end of a chain. Dog tethers can also easily become entangled with other objects, preventing the dog from reaching food, shelter or water and even choking or strangling the dogs to death. Lastly, chained dogs can and do become a target for other animals and people intending to do harm; they have been killed by both other dogs and humans.
- **Chaining is a safety hazard for people.** Tethered dogs can and do pose a risk to the community. Because they are vulnerable and fearful, their natural instinct since they cannot escape is to become highly territorial and aggressive. This can present a significant risk of injury to the public through dog bites and attacks. Since there is no physical barrier between a dog and a child or other community member, tethered dogs can pose a risk to neighbors or passersby (frequently children). According to a scientific study in Pediatrics chained dogs are 2.8 times more likely to bite, but for victims under 12, that number rises to 5.4.

3. Don't chained dogs make good guard dogs?

No, the opposite is true. Chained dogs are unable to stop an intruder. Since most chained dogs are not socialized, they are unable to distinguish a real threat from a family friend or neighborhood child. The best guard dogs are those who live inside the house and are treated as part of the family.

4. Isn't it possible for dogs who are kenneled to be neglected as well? Why pass a law specifically restricting chaining?

While it is true that dogs can be neglected in many situations, the tethering of dogs raises many public safety and community concerns that kenneling does not. The lack of a barrier to protect the dog from outside dangers, raises the risk of dog bites, makes dogs vulnerable to unwanted breeding and attack by other dogs or animals because a chained dog cannot defend himself.

5. Why should we pass a law to restrict the continuous chaining or tethering of dogs?

A tethering law gives animal control officers another tool to deal with animal neglect and abuse. A tethering restriction can also make for a safer community. Restricting dog chaining can cut down on dog attacks and dog bites against people and animals. Moreover, disallowing continuous chaining raises the standard of care for dogs in a community. We have witnessed first-hand dogs that were once chained 24/7, living as part of the family after Fences For Fido built a fence for them.

6. Are there laws against dog chaining in other states or communities?

Yes. Over 100 U.S. cities and counties and several states have passed laws banning or carefully regulating chaining. Multnomah County is the only county in Oregon that has a chaining ordinance, which is why the Oregon legislature should pass legislation regulating the practice of tethering.

7. What about people who say they have to chain or tether their dog while they are at work?

The provisions in the bill allow for chaining a dog for up to 10 hours to a stationary object or up to 15 hours to a pulley or zip-line. Alternatively, dogs can be kept inside the house, or a fenced yard or even a kennel. There are many resources available to help people train their dogs to be well-behaved members of the family.



Fences For Fido (FFF)—
an all-volunteer non-profit
improving the lives of dogs
living outside on chains by
building them a free fenced
yard and a warm, insulated
dog house—has unchained
more than 525 dogs in
3-1/2 years.

A glimpse into backyards
and communities
throughout Oregon.

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Gizmo



Bruno



Gordo



Nick Esposto

Duke



Buddy



Halo



Jack



Lexi



Biaggi



Nike



**FENCES
FOR
FIDO**

UN-CHAINED one dog at a time
www.fencesforfido.org

Lina



Clown



dogz



Jack



Peluche



Payton



Bandit



Oso





Poor shelter
and obstructions.





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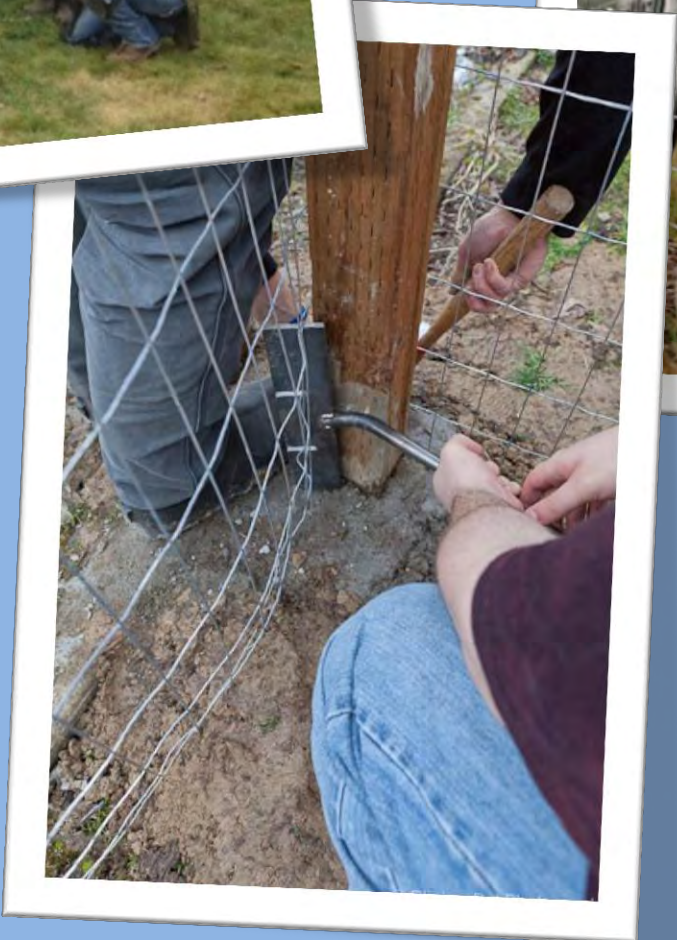
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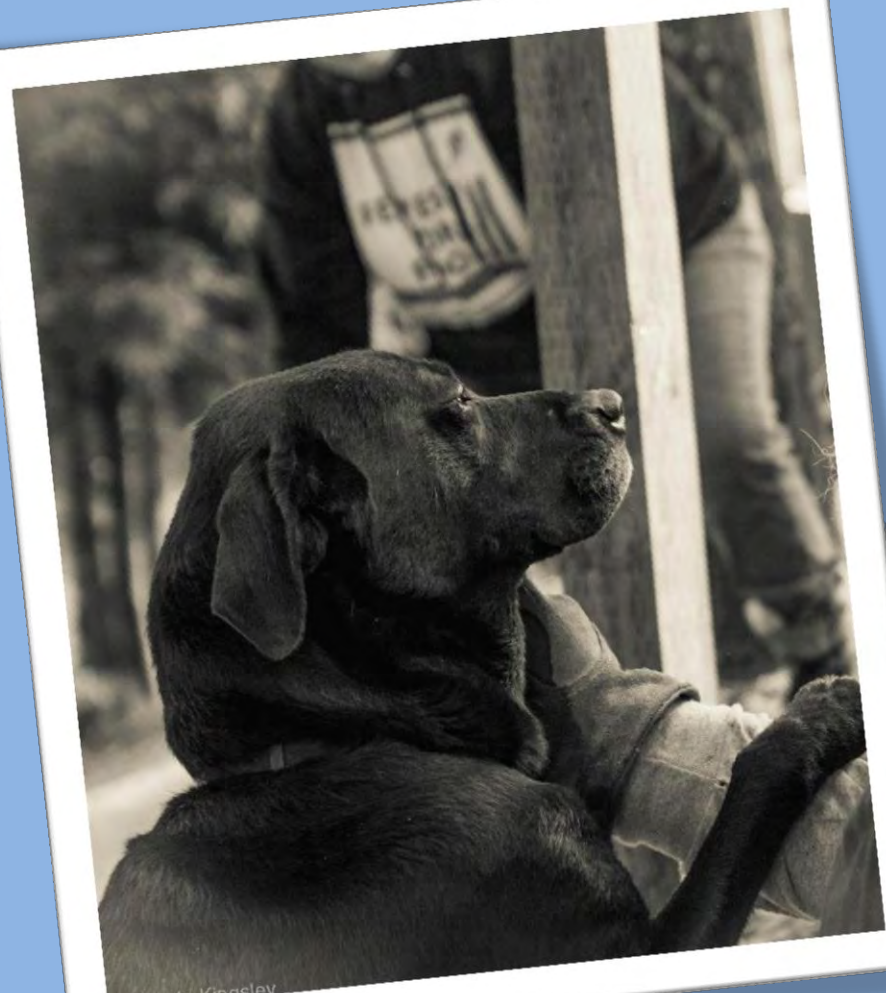




About Fences For Fido.







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