



“Fencing Solutions for Climbers & Jumpers”

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Did you know that no matter how hard you try, no matter how high or sturdy your fence is that an escape artist may find a way over, under or through. Sometimes, it seems that the best thing to do is to get rid of your dog, but all that does is pass the problem onto someone else.

It takes work, ingenuity and commitment to get a well-behaved dog that stays home. It doesn't happen by accident. You can rest assured however, that you can find the key to keeping your dog safe and at home where they belong.

Many times, behavioral problems including escaping can be solved by dog and owner through attending basic obedience classes. This formal training often creates a strong bond between the dog and owner. It is also another way to occupy a dog's mind with other things, rather than how to escape. Beltrami County has many different dog training opportunities available to fit the time schedules and budgets of most pet owners.

Spaying and neutering are strongly advised, as the hormones of an unsterilized dog will increase its escape drive. Male dogs that normally are confined and happy will become frantic to escape when they sense a female is in season. A female in season may also perform heroic measures to escape. Neutering will not only make your dog happier, but healthier. This also gives you the reassurance that you are not contributing to the pet overpopulation problem.

Burrowing dogs such as terriers frequently enjoy digging for fun. During this process, they learn to escape. Try placing bricks or heavy stones at the base of the fence, bury the fence a foot or more below the surface as a deterrent, or lay a section of wire fencing flat under several inches of earth to discourage digging.

For jumpers or climbers, try a “no-jump” harness which restricts that behavior. Add an extension to the tops of the fence that leans inward at a 45 degree angle. A climber meets this barrier at the top of the fence and cannot proceed. This extension can also fool the eye of the jumping dog making it most difficult for him to judge the height of the fence. Block walls (if sufficient heights) will confine well. You can also equip the kennel with a cover, or lastly try crate training your dog when you are away. Dogs learn to accept crates as their own “den,” and therefore, you can relax when you are away, knowing that your dog will be safe, and your home will be in one piece when you return. Be sure your dog always has access to food and/or water. If you are uncertain about the size of a crate, consult with a professional regarding the proper and humane use of a crate before proceeding.

Beltrami Humane Society has a number of great dogs and/or puppies who are waiting patiently to go to new homes where they will be able to become a new companion or best friend to their family. You can see these dogs on our website photo gallery at www.beltramihumane.com or on www.petfinder.com. You can stop in and see them in person at 1612 Carr Lake Rd SE, Bemidji, MN. If you have questions, call us at (218) 751-7910. Hours of operation are Tuesdays thru Saturdays, 12-5:30 p.m. All animals are spayed and neutered prior to adoption. Visit Walmart and see pictures of some of our animals at the ends of the pet aisles as we are part of the “Very Best Pet Network”. Stop into Pamida and see our “Pets of the Month”. Listen to KKBJ FM 103 (the early show), and hear about our ‘Pets of the Week’.

Upcoming Events: “Walk for Animals, October 20, 2007”. Meet us down at the waterfront! Walk a Shelter Animal, or Your Very Own Companion. Who will get the most sponsors? Pick up your sponsor packets at the shelter or participating area businesses. Enjoy special contests, prizes, food and fun! “See the sights & hear the sounds” as we walk down the beautiful paved trail along Lake Bemidji. It’s great exercise!

Shelter Wishes: Dog Food, Dog Treats, and Non-Chewable Dog Toys for play time. The dog yards are in dire need of “pea rock” to fill

holes and smooth out the yard areas before winter sets in. Can you help? Thanks for Caring about the Animals!

Remember, "Shelter Animals Make Great Companions!"