

School Shopping For Your Pet

Reduce Anxiety Caused By Changes in Daily Routine

By Nancy Secrist, Easdale: the best pet care

Whether it's children in our local schools or young adults in college, the late summer season signifies the return to school for many families. Many parents even welcome the return to peace and quiet during the day. But what may be a relaxing reprieve from the hustle and bustle of a full house all summer for parents can be stressful for your pet.

A few supplies can help reduce anxiety caused by changes in daily routine—specifically separation anxiety—while your pet's best summer playmate is away all day in classes. Consider taking a few simple steps to ease your pet's transition before the kids go back to their daily school year routine.

This would also be a good time to introduce a new toy or even a treat-dispensing toy to keep your pet occupied during your child's absence. You might set up a transition process that allows the pet to gradually work up to a daily schedule that introduces the fall routine when school starts. Does your dog have a crate or a special place of his or her own? Crating or leaving your dog home alone for a short time during the day, then increasing the duration over the course of a few weeks, can help your pet settle into a new daily schedule. The times of outdoor breaks and walks may need adjusted too. This gradual progression eases your dog into the change in a less stressful way. Your pet's breakfast may have to be at an earlier time as the school bus waits for no one!



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Consider the purchase of puzzle toys, engage your pet and let them solve homework problems too! Special treats will peak interest in getting their homework done too. You can also have your child go along with your walks at the end of every day when he or she returns home from school, thus establishing a new routine for Fido's anticipation.

Reserve a place to go away from the home? Another option to ease your pet's stress is to board during the day while your child is gone just for the occasional day here or there. Easdale has just the right accommodations and amenities that are sure to distract from the changes at home. We provide on-site care for your pet, and we have over 30 years of experience with canines and felines.

Easdale is celebrating 85 years of service in pet care! Different activities pets enjoy are the Nature Trail, the Ball Park, PupArt classes and our Stress Relief program. Our Stress Relief program calms dogs that experience stress in new situations, including rescue dogs, first-time boarding dogs, nervous or anxious dogs, and those with a fear of thunderstorms.

We look forward to helping with your plans in the fall. Meanwhile, if there is one last trip in your summer vacation, please remember to reserve early!

Easdale Pet Care is located at 1814 North Revere Road in Bath Township. To make your reservation for pet boarding or a grooming appointment, please call 330-666-2004. Hours are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 8am to 5pm; Wednesday and Saturday, 8am to 12pm. Our office is closed on Labor Day. For more information, visit BestPetCare.net.