

Potty training issues when it is cold and raining outside

***DO NOT FORCE YOUR DOG TO STAY OUTSIDE IF HE WANTS IN. YOU ARE NOT HELPING THE SITUATION OTHER THAN MAKING THEM COLDER and NOT WANTING TO EVER GO OUT AGAIN!**

1. Go outside with your dog.
2. Get your dog a sweater and booties if he will wear them.
3. If your dog does not go potty on the first break and wants in, bring him back in the house but stand by the door to allow him to warm up for two minutes and then return back outside to finish. This will let him know what the required routine is at that time.
4. Do not force your dog to pee and poop on the same trip outside. He may need to make multiple trips in order not to freeze.
5. Praise your dog when he potties outside for you.
6. Make the experience being outside in the cold fun. (i.e. you run around the yard, throw a stick or snowball).
7. When your dog comes back inside wipe down their feet of any moisture or snow.
8. Create a fun experience inside when he potties outside for you (i.e. cuddle time in a warm blanket with mom)

Thinking out of the box options:

1. If you have snow on the ground shovel a trail for your dog. Why should they have to walk on snow?
2. Place tarp around your deck creating a barrier for the wind.
3. A garage is considered a space outside of the living area. This can be considered an option other than outside. Poop is easy to pick up. Wipe up the pee and then place hot water over the area. You can power wash the garage in the summer. Other options is laying down newspaper or puppy pads in the garage.

***Owners with outdoor pets: please reconsider finding a space in your home to allow these pets indoors when temperatures are freezing.**