

4paws ON THE ROAD

Traveling and Camping with Companion Animals

by Jenn Gehr



Jenn, I'm asking point blank. What would YOU do when your camping neighbors have an annoying, barking dog? It seems like just when I think I am going to get a chance to sleep in a bit when I'm on vacation, the 6:23am "alarm" goes off next door! The dog is so big & loud, it sounds like a sea lion being skinned. I was only there for 5 nights, and didn't want to stir the pot, but every morning, like clockwork, there went the ALARRRRRRRRRmmmmm! It really got me thinking and wanted to ask you, as I'm sure you can relate with all your years on the road.

Thanks for your advice on this uncomfortable subject,

*Karen & Tim Glasgow
District of Columbia, TT Member*

JENN I truly appreciate your frustration and your willingness to bring up this delicate inquiry. Been there, heard that. And nothing is worse than being woken up to the sound of an uncontrolled barking dog. Well, maybe it goes hand in hand with the ear piercing shrieks of exuberant children who feel compelled to rollerblade in front of your RV during a very well posted "quiet hour." Yes, these along with other campground rules are put into place so that all campers may have the most enjoyable and safe

camping experience possible. It's common courtesy to be mindful of others, yet sometimes I wonder if people even care at all about The Golden Rule: treat others the way you would like to be treated. I know that Thousand Trails Campground Managers are put, into place to

ensure each persons satisfaction as well as listen to and resolve problems if at all possible. I compliment you on biting your tongue yet encourage you to kindly say your piece to management the next time you are faced with such an issue. I believe that with the help of a neutral third party, a happy compromise would arise...and I sincerely hope it will find you well rested this time.

Hi, and thanks for your informative pet column. We have just retired and are new to long term camping in a 42 foot Motorhome with our 2 dogs and 2 cats. I have two simple but important questions.

1) Have you found any solution to removing pine sap, aka, pitch, from your dogs paws and fur? Can I use Goo-Gone?

2) Your favorite travel treats under \$20 suitable for both dogs and cats- MUST be made in the USA, corn, grain, soy gluten and wheat free. (thanks!)

*Cheers, Diana and Calvin Roberts
Tillamook, OR*

JENN Welcome to retirement! The best years of my life have been those living on the road in less than 400 sq. ft. with my Hubby and our

Fur Kids. I wish you and yours the very best!

To answer your questions;

1) I use a generic, antibacterial solution (in a pump bottle) or wipes to help dissolve sticky pine pitch. It is a mess and I try to carefully cut the sap off my dog's hair whenever possible, but the wipes seem to be more effective than rubbing alcohol and less offensive to sensitive skin and noses when trimming out the stick isn't an option. While Goo-Gone works wonders on human clothing, it is toxic, and the foul smell resides long after it's washed off with soap and water.

2) Primal Pet Foods "Chicken Nibs" Jerky are (\$17 for 6 oz) or "Turkey Liver Munchies" (\$8 for 2 oz) both are organic, preservative free, human grade treats for both your dogs and cats made without any of the additives you listed in your question! In addition, all of Primals extensive line of foods and treats are from grass feed animals, raised without antibiotics or added hormones. Another favorite treat brand I use is Papa Psuka (\$16 for 12 oz.) by Koda Pet Foods Inc. – I love their lightweight treat sticks that easily break down into any size you wish to feed. These healthy, baked snacks are for dogs and cats, made in the USA of beef lung, beef liver, beef broth and turkey liver. All prices listed are an approximate MSRP so shop around, but I know you will be happy with the products.

*Email Jenn your questions
and share your pics at
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