

# Sierra Animal Wellness Center

Specializing in Holistic, Integrative Veterinary  
Medicine



August 24, 2017



## Clinic Hours

Monday, Thursday and Friday  
from 9:00 to 6:00

Tuesday from 9:00 to 3:00

Wednesday from 12:00 to 6:00

## Contact Us

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[Pembroke Welsh Corgis Bred by Peggy Roberts, DVM](#)

## Skunked! How to Deal with a Stinky Situation

This is the time of year when we start hearing more about close encounters of the smelliest kind, but in truth, they can happen any time. We hope you never need this information, but if the worse happens, what should you do?

1. First of all stay calm. Your furry friend will probably be feeling a little panicky and your calming presence can help him or her settle down.

2. Unless you want your furniture and carpets smelling like skunk, keep your dog outside in a safe place.

3. Check their eyes immediately and if they are red and irritated, rinse with an eye wash.

4. Prepare a neutralizing solution. Forget tomato juice, it is not effective! Over the counter skunk remedies are available at most pet stores and work pretty quickly but this homemade recipe from Dr. Karen Becker is the best we have found, it is inexpensive and uses readily available ingredients. Please note you cannot prepare this solution ahead of time and store it - it won't be effective when



you need it. It must be made fresh, right before you apply it to your pet. We suggest you keep these ingredients and instructions on hand.

### Skunk Odor Neutralizer

In a pail or other container, mix:

- 1 quart hydrogen peroxide (3% variety, available at drug stores)
- ¼ cup baking soda
- 2 teaspoons liquid dish soap such as Dawn

If you have a large breed dog, you may need to double, triple or even quadruple the mixture.

Wear dishwashing or other household gloves if you like during the whole de-skunking process.

Don't wet down your pet. Apply the mixture to your pet's dry coat from the collar back toward the tail. Don't pour it near the eyes because the hydrogen peroxide solution can burn them.

Lather the mixture into your pet's coat and skin. Rub the solution around for about five minutes or until the skunk smell starts to dissipate.

If the front of your pet is as stinky as the back, use a sponge to apply the solution to your pet's chin, cheeks, forehead and ears, being very careful not to go near the eyes. When you rinse the head area, tilt your pet's chin upward so the solution does not run down into the eyes, instead allow the water to run back off his neck.

Do a complete rinse once the smell starts to decrease, then repeat the entire process again.

You may need to repeat the lather and rinse process up to three times, but it's a very effective method for removing the skunk smell from your pet.

Be sure to completely rinse the solution off your pet. Your final rinse should be very thorough.

After these washings, your pup should be calming down and smelling much better! Completely dry him or her off and then let your pup relax after this ordeal. You'll probably be ready to relax, too! Good luck... and here's hoping you never need this advice!

Until next time, be well.

- Dr. Peggy

### In Closing

We appreciate you taking the time to read this edition of our e-newsletter and hope you've found it informative. Please let us know what you think. Your comments and suggestions are always welcomed.

If you have any questions or concerns about your animal's health, don't hesitate to call or email us.

Best always,

Dr. Peggy, Bev and All the Staff  
Sierra Animal Wellness Center

