

## PURE DOG TALK 364 – HEALTHY, HAPPY TRAVELS TO WESTMINSTER

Pure Dog Talk is the voice of purebred dogs. We talk to the legends of the sport, and give you the tips and tools to create an awesome life with your purebred dog. From showing to preservation breeding, from competitive obedience to field work, from agility to therapy dogs, and all the fun in between, your passion is our purpose.

Trupanion is a proud sponsor of both Pure Dog Talk and the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show. Trupanion is thrilled to be hosting Pure Dog Talk at their booth this year, and together we would love to share your story. I'll be recording stories live and would love to feature you and your journey. If you're interested in being in the spotlight, shoot me an email, [laura@puredogtalk.com](mailto:laura@puredogtalk.com) and let me know that you'll be stopping by. We'll see you there.

**Laura Reeves:**

Welcome to Pure Dog Talk. I am your host, Laura Reeves, and we have again today, our very favorite veterinary voice, Dr. Marty Greer, and timeliness being what it is the first Thursday in February, we are going to talk about all of the important health-type needs for your dog flying, driving, traveling to Westminster Kennel Club. So welcome, Marty.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Thank you. It's going to be a very exciting week next week.

**Laura Reeves:**

Yes. Very exciting. I'm excited. Everybody's on countdown.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Yes, exactly. Who's going to be there. Who's going to make it.

**Laura Reeves:**

Right.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Yeah. All the buzz.

**Laura Reeves:**

So you're super excited. And number one, enter the dog on your list. Good job.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Well, sometimes the hopelessly obvious escapes even the best of us. So yeah.

**Laura Reeves:**

It doesn't happen by magic.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

No, even though you've been talking about it for two years, it doesn't mean that the kennel club knows that you're interested in entering your dog.

**Laura Reeves:**

Exactly. So you had some really great stuff in our notes that we were talking about, and you were talking about some of the different airlines, and some of that kind of stuff that is, okay, now we're planning or getting our dog ready to go. Hopefully you've done this two months ago, or three months ago, or four months ago.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Exactly. Make those reservations well in advance.

**Laura Reeves:**

I didn't know what you're noting here, that Southwest air doesn't fly dogs in cargo.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

No, they don't. It's only under the seat. And if your dog is too big to fit under the seat, it doesn't go. So the first thing I want to say, and I'm going to say this probably more than once is please don't pretend your dog is an emotional support dog if it's not.

**Laura Reeves:**

Please.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

We know this goes on. I've been to the airport, I fly a lot. I see a lot of dogs that are clearly not qualified to be emotional support dogs. And they so deteriorate the relationship that people with certified service dogs have with airlines, and other travel authorities.

**Laura Reeves:**

And need.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Please. Yes. Need, I've raised six dogs for canine companions for independence, and I have a very strong passion for this. And it just isn't fair to the rest of the world if you're faking it with an emotional support dog, and there is legislation, that's going to be coming up fairly soon because it has become abused. You can't take your dog on the plane if it's really not certified for that. And don't go online and order the papers. I mean, it's just not right. So do the right thing.

**Laura Reeves:**

I can't tell you how many times I've flown to the garden and right behind me underneath the seat are the number one dogs in X, Y, and Z breed with their handlers that I know we can't ask, but I'm telling you.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Yeah, it's not fair. So be upright and forthcoming, and just be honest. And if you can't fly on Southwest, because your dog doesn't fit under the seat, find another airline, there are plenty of them that do. I am in no way trying to promote one airline over another, it's just that they all have different rules, and I fly Southwest a lot, and I've flown dogs on Southwest, so I'm comfortable with that.

**Laura Reeves:**

Right out here on the West coast, Alaska Airlines is everybody's preferred travel. They should actually pay me because I pitch them all the time.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Yeah, I hear you.

**Laura Reeves:**

Yep. Okay. So next, make sure that your travel bag, your crate, if you're going into seat, you're going under the airplane.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Right in cargo. Yeah. Make sure it's appropriately sized for the dog, whether it's under the seat or cargo. And of course it has to be an airline approved crate if it's going in cargo. I have had one experience with, which was really unfortunate, trying to fly a Bernese Mountain Dog from Wisconsin back to his home in Washington state, and went toe to toe for several hours with the people at the airline cargo desk about whether the dog's crate was appropriately sized for him or not, even though he'd flown all over the country multiple times in it. They wouldn't let him fly back home in the very crate that he flew there and all over the world. And so it was a big problem, and even as a USDA accredited veterinarian, I could not convince them that the dog should not be in such a large crate, that he was like a pin ball in it, if there was turbulence.

So it has to be appropriately sized so that the dog's head can be above his shoulders. It needs to be an airline approved crates so that it's got those rings around it so that they can't be packed up against a box or something else and have a lack of airflow. So there's a reason that the crates are kind of angled and have funny edges, and all the parts that they do for the airlines to have them be safe on the plane. So check the airline create ahead of time. I've had clients get to the airport and at the last minute have to do a change. Sometimes they will sell you a bag or a crate at the airline. They may have them in stock, they may not, but if they do have them, I'll guarantee you that you're going to pay a lot more for that at the time. And of course the bigger the crate, the more expensive the shipping is, so.

**Laura Reeves:**

And certain size crates can't go in certain size airplanes.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Correct.

**Laura Reeves:**

Regular listeners can think back to the episode I just did with Pilar Kuhn about the work that she's doing with the airlines. So there is some possibility, if you want to listen to that episode, get in touch with Pilar. She has a lot of information on that specifically.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Yeah. So there's good information out there.

**Laura Reeves:**

Yeah, absolutely. The one that I thought was really interesting, we always talk about a health certificate. You have to have a health certificate to fly, but you were talking about the certificate of veterinary inspection that's required for all the animals crossing state lines. And this is something, like I said to you, I'm like dude, I traveled for 25 years with 20 dogs in my truck, or 10 dogs, or however many dogs and crossed innumerable state lines. And so talk to us about why this is actually now, in today's society, something we might want to consider.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Well, it has always been required that to travel with a dog crossing state lines that you should have a certificate of veterinary inspection. Now, of course, it's not practical if you live in Kansas city, Missouri, and go to Kansas City, Kansas to buy groceries, or if you live in Minneapolis and you run to St. Paul to take the dog to the vet. Crossing state lines without a health certificate, or, well of course, Minneapolis, St. Paul they're in the same state. But it's sort of the same thing as you would cross a river, and suddenly you're in a different place. Omaha and Council Bluffs, you're crossing state lines.

**Laura Reeves:**

Oregon and Washington. Yeah. Vancouver and Portland. Yeah.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Right. And you do it all the time. So you don't even think about the differences. So suddenly you realize you've crossed state lines and they can actually require that you have a health certificate to do that, whether you're on an airplane or in a vehicle. So the important thing is that if you are going to be traveling a distance, that you do have a health certificate. They are technically called certificate of veterinary inspections. The veterinarian that fills that out and signs it and does the exam for you, number one, must see your dog. So it cannot just be, "Hey doc, is it okay? I was in six months ago, but do you mind just signing the certificate?" And the answer to that should be number one, don't ask. And number two, if they say, no, don't be surprised, because if you, as an accredited veterinarian sign paperwork without seeing the dog and you get caught doing it, you will lose your accreditation. And that's a big deal.

We have to take courses every three years to keep our accreditation. It's a very important and valuable part of our license. So, don't ask to bend the rules. It just isn't going to work that way. It has to be done correctly, and the veterinarian needs to see you. So even when you go to a dog show, if you're crossing state lines, you should have that certificate of veterinary inspection with you. Now, last spring, I was at our local dog show, Fond du Lac dog show, and I walked out of the one building and into the next, and as I was crossing through the parking lot, this woman going the opposite direction said to me, "Well, hi, Marty." And I'm like, Oh no, Oh no. It was the state veterinarian. And I'm like, Oh no. I wonder how many people are here without health certificates and rabies certificates in their possession for the 1500 dogs that we have entered here at the show. Fortunately she said, "Oh, hi. Yeah, I show my breed of dog. So I'm just here." I'm like, "Oh, whew."

But they can show up, and they can ask for your certificate. So it's not just at the airline. And they may never ask you, you may cross state lines. You may fly with the dog. They may never ask you. But if they do and you don't have it, you're not getting on the plane. Period, end of discussion. Different people at the desk are going to have different criteria. It's like when I was trying to fly the Bernese Mountain Dog, they looked at him and they said he can't put his head above his shoulders in this crate, so he's not going to go. And if you get somebody that's in a bad mood and they want to enforce the rule, you're not getting on the plane.

**Laura Reeves:**

Well, and I think too, one of the things that crossed my mind and there's social media conversation right now about a Podengo breeder in Connecticut who had her dogs removed illegally, possibly, what have you. We live in a society today where overreach from various and sundry local governments as regards our dogs is getting to be something of a concern. And this is a CYA opportunity, yeah?

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

It is. And people feel entitled to tell you that they are going to break your car window, or do whatever. And really the authorities have the opportunity to tell you you're not getting on the plane. So just make the appointment, go to the vet, get the health certificate, be done with it. Don't take a chance that you're going to get to the airplane, and not have the paperwork, and then not be able to hit the show that you had planned all these years to attend, just simply because you were either too busy, or forgot, or too cheap to go to the vet and get this one little piece of paper. So it's important that you do that. So I would encourage people to plan for that. And then of course you need to have a current rabies certificate as well.

And if the dog is going to fly in cargo, if it's not going to fit into the seat, then you need to also have a letter of acclimation when the weather is either cold or hot so that you can have your veterinarian certify that the dog can tolerate the temperatures that the dog will be exposed to during the travel. So it's important that you get all the paperwork lined up, and the letter of acclimation is easy to write. The veterinarian can just go to the website for USDA and they'll tell you what temperature ranges you need to verify that the dog is safe at. So if your dog's from Florida and it's never been in temperatures of zero degrees, it's probably not a good idea to write the letter that says that it's acclimated at that temperature. Here in Wisconsin, we can write it for a ridiculously low temperature.

**Laura Reeves:**

Right. Right. And it makes a difference. I mean, they're saying this year, 2020, the temperatures at the garden are going to be just fine, but I'm going to tell you right now, I flew a couple of years ago that the temperatures were subzero.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Yes.

**Laura Reeves:**

So that kind of stuff makes a difference. So definitely we want to pay attention to that. The other one on here that I really want people to kind of hear, and some discussion about is the anti-anxiety medication. So I drove. I drove from Oregon to New York when I had the Spinone that didn't want to go on an airplane. So if you can't drive for six days, talk about that a little bit.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Sure. And there's several really good medications. There's, Trazadone, there's Gabapentin, there's Alprazolam. There's Diazepam, which has vallium. And there's some really good, short acting anti-anxiety medications that can be useful. Now, if you're going to do it, you don't want to pick it up on the way to the airport. You want to have a chance to give this medication. And in fact, sometimes it takes more than one try to find the right medication. So you want to make sure that you've tested it first on the dog to make sure, because every now and then you'll have a dog that actually gets more high strung on it. You need to know the right dose so that you're not giving too little, not giving too much. So you want to practice it. Put the medication into the dog, get the prescription from the veterinarian, practice it, put it in the car, drive it around, see if that's going to be the appropriate dose.

And if it's not talk to your veterinarian about adjusting that dose of medication. Benadryl and Acepromazine are not anxiety medications. So please do your dog a service, and again, spend the money at your vet, get the right medication. Benadryl may make them look sleepy and the same with Acepromazine, but it doesn't reduce their anxiety. All they are is terrified and frozen in place. So if they're nervous, they're not less nervous, they just can't move. So you get the impression that they're okay, but they're really not. So be nice to your dog. If you expect them to perform well, and you're invested enough in them to take them across the country for an important show like this to be competitive, do them a favor and get them the right medication, and make their trip easy and comfortable. And frankly, it'll make your life a lot better too.

**Laura Reeves:**

Right? Because you won't be stressed out that the dog is stressed out.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Exactly. So you don't have to have three glasses of wine on the airplane just to get there.

**Laura Reeves:**

Well, you know.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Well, you can do that if you want, but only if you're taking Uber.

**Laura Reeves:**

Everybody has their own anti-anxiety medication.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Yeah. Please take Uber when you get there.

**Laura Reeves:**

Exactly. Okay. So another one I think is really important. We were talking about before we came on air, everybody goes to the Garden. I've talked to a lot of people. I've been there, myself. Your dog goes out in the backyard, goes potty. Even when you take it to a dog show, you walk it, and there's grass. New York City, there's not grass. So let's talk about two

things. Number one, convincing your dog to go potty when there's no grass, and number two, keeping your dog healthy and safe from dog show crud when there's 90 million people using one square foot of sawdust.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Right. So first of all, get your dog used to saw dust. So buy a bag at the feed store, they sell it in the department with the horse supplies. So take a bag home, throw it up in the yard, get the dog used to what the texture of it feels like, looks like, smells like, how to use it so that they're not just freaked out when they suddenly see something that doesn't look like grass. Like you said, you may think your dog is really beautifully trained, but you're going to find out that they're trained very specifically to one substrate. So don't get fooled by that. So get some practice.

If you can't get them to go, you can always either use a suppository, which most people don't travel with, or a match. Many of us know the match trick before we go on the ring so the dog, you just, not a wooden match, please use the paper matches, take the match, some people light it and let it blow out and cool it. And other people use it just right out of the package, slip it into the dog's rectum that will frequently stimulate them to have a stool. I still don't know who the first guy is that was standing outside the dog show and said-

**Laura Reeves:**

Smoking a cigarette and decided that's how I'm going to do it, right?

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Yeah. "Joe, what do you think? You think if we stick this in the dog that she'll have a stool for us? You think that'll work?" I don't know, but it works beautifully. It works about 90% of the time, and frequently we'll combine the suppository and the match. If we're trying to get an x-ray or a trans-cervical insemination done on a dog that we really need to have-

**Laura Reeves:**

Emptied out.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Emptied out quickly. And then you can travel with, Rescue, the Virox company makes wipes that you can use on the dog's feet. You can get chlorhexadine wipes easily. They're not prescription items. You can just go to the Virox Facebook page website, Amazon. You can find them on those references and find some of those wipes, get them ordered, take them with you. You can wipe their little feet off as soon as they come out, because invariably, they're going to step in something that you didn't really intend for them to. You can wipe off things around their bowls and food dishes and that kind of thing too. So they're very handy to travel with.

**Laura Reeves:**

I like that.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

They'll stay moist. Yeah, they're great. And they're a nice, safe product because peroxide metabolizes into water and oxygen and chlorhexadine is safe. We use chlorhexadine all over the place in our hospital. So it's really safe. It's very effective, and it's a very handy way to travel with your dog. So just get that ordered. Order it today, because if you don't, you won't get it in time.

**Laura Reeves:**

That's right.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Start packing your stuff.

**Laura Reeves:**

Amazon prime overnight delivery. Boom.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Yeah, there you go. Right.

**Laura Reeves:**

Gosh, that I think is another one of our famous pooppy episodes. I just want everybody to know. Not everybody gets to discuss this nine o'clock on a Sunday morning.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

I know, but it makes it so much more fun.

**Laura Reeves:**

It does.

Hang tight, guys. Got a little bit of information for you. We'll be right back to the podcast in a minute.

So, Hey crew, new year, new decade, let's have some new Pure Dog Talk promos while we're at it, shall we? All right, our patrons group continues to grow and thrive. It's like the NPR of dogdom. It's so cool. And Pure Dog Talk offers you, my loyal listeners, an opportunity to get in on the fun. Pure Dog Talk patrons are invited to join a closed Facebook chat group just for you. And I promise you no drama mamas, no keyboard warriors, just fabulous, supportive, Pure Dog Talk fans. That's it. Each month I pick a photo submitted by our patrons group to be the cover image on the Facebook page. You guys have seen it. And anybody with a quick question gets immediate feedback from moi personally, as well as input from the array of patron group members. It's pretty fun.

The patrons group also gets first dibs on podcast topic suggestions. So if you have something you want to hear about, that's a good way to do it. And to celebrate the new year, I am adding a whole new technological challenge to my life. Oh my God. I will be hosting Facebook live discussions or patrons only on the final Monday of each month from 6:00 to 7:00 PM pacific time zone. Y'all join us from wherever you are, but that's when there'll be. Just a few of our planned topics of conversation include: advertising on a shoestring budget. Yeah, trust me. We can talk about that. Campaigning a special just for our handlers. Problem solving the stack. Tricks of the trade for grooming, like what products do I like or anybody else like. Open mic Q&A's all that kind of stuff. What you guys need to know is that the generosity of Pure Dog Talk's patrons is literally what keeps the MP3s running here.

The money is set aside exclusively for overhead and operational expenses. That's it. Now I'm incredibly grateful to our corporate sponsors, you have no idea. They have the dedication to purebred dogs, and the resources to ensure that Pure Dog Talk remains a powerful voice for purebred dogs. But you guys? Y'all believed in this mission and you supported it from the beginning. You are the heart and soul of my crusade to provide all purebred dog lovers, a constantly growing, challenging treasure trove of knowledge, in a 21st century format. So just click the Be My Patron on Podbean button on the website. It's quick, it's easy, it's secure. And I hope to see all of you on the next Facebook live chat.

**Laura Reeves:**

So I think another one that we can talk about that is really super useful for people that are getting ready, they're going to be leaving. They're either going to Minneapolis, or they're going to get on the plane and fly Friday or Saturday, what have you. If you're taking the dog and carrying it underneath and what has to be done for TSA. I know the first time I flew with a dog under the seat, I'm like, "Okay, so I'm not putting the dog on the carrier belt." You know the little...

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

No. No, that's a bad idea. TSA doesn't really like it. If you try to drop the bag and walk through without it. So you have to take the dog out of the bag, put the bag through the screening process, and then you'll carry the dog through, if it's small enough to carry. If it's too large, then you'll put it on a leash. I actually had a dog that got away from me.

**Laura Reeves:**

Oh, geez.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

At security going through. My husband was on one side. I was on the other, I was pre-TSA. He was not, I went through, fortunately the dog saw him and ran straight to him because of course she didn't have a leash on. So yeah, you can have a lot more excitement going through the TSA checkpoints than you ever thought would be possible. So make sure you have an appropriate leash. One of those little slip leads that you can just pull out of your pocket.

**Laura Reeves:**

That kind of lead solves so many problems.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Yes. Yeah. So don't go without your lead. It's not going to work out. And I had her on a leash, I just didn't keep ahold of it. So fortunately she went straight to him and I wasn't running all over the airport, because of course they don't let you go back through the other way.

**Laura Reeves:**

No.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

TSA does not have a sense of humor.

**Laura Reeves:**

No.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

We're just going to say that. So follow their rules, do what they tell you to do, or again, you're not getting on the plane. So you have to really follow the instructions.

**Laura Reeves:**

Another one that I think is really good that people forget about. So when they say take everything out of your pockets, they mean your poop bags, too.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Yeah. They mean everything.

**Laura Reeves:**

Oh my gosh. That was a bad scene.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Well, yeah. And again, they just don't think it's funny if you... You can't take a bottle of water for the dog, you can have an empty container, but you can't have. So just be really thoughtful. Gels, of course that includes peanut butter. So if



you think you're taking peanut butter for the dog, it has to be in one of those really small little containers that come with the peel top off of them, not the big jar. So again, put that in your checked bag, or buy it when you get there because I'm like peanut butter? I mean, really you think I'm going to have something explosive in my peanut butter? But they're really strict, and you can't win the argument with them. Don't even try.

**Laura Reeves:**

Yeah. Make sure that your chewy toy goes in their bag is another one.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Right. And it's also handy. If you've got a dog that's not real reliable or a really long flight, or you get held up someplace to have an extra potty pad in your bag. If your dog is really uncomfortable, you can take them into the lavatory, put the potty pad on the floor and let the dog go potty on there, and then you can escape from the bathroom without having a mess. And people on the plane do not find it entertaining for your dog to have diarrhea. So, just be really careful about what you feed them before you go. You might even want to fast them so that they're less likely to have an accident.

**Laura Reeves:**

That's what I was just going to say. That's what I normally do. Can you give a recommendation on fasting? I normally, if I'm flying in the morning, I feed them their evening meal and they don't get breakfast.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Right. And they won't starve to death on the flight. You can feed them as soon as you get there. And again, make sure you know where all the potty stops are. There are usually some pet relief areas outside the airport. So stop at one on your way in.

**Laura Reeves:**

And some of the airports have them inside now. It's very nice.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Yeah. They're getting more pet friendly. And there are some airports that are kind of lenient on the dogs traveling with you. If they're in the carrier, they'll let you take them out in the airport. Milwaukee is not one of those airports. Florida, Orlando tends to be. So really follow the rules. You can't take the dog out of the bag during travel on the plane, you can't take the dog out of the bag when you're sitting at the airport, follow the rules because if they decide that you're not going, just not going.

So don't make this hard on anybody, just follow the rules, do what the flight attendants ask you to do. And you know, just be a good citizen because if you're nice, they're going to let other people fly with their dogs. Frankly, if you're a jerk, they're not going to have a good opinion of us. And we already have enough trouble with PR in the dog world. So pick up after your dog at the doggy relief centers, and be considerate of the people around you. And if they're allergic, be nice. Just be nice to people.

**Laura Reeves:**

I think we could just tattoo that on every single Pure Dog Talk episode. Just be nice.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Well, they don't have to let us fly with our dogs. They don't have to let us use hotels. It's getting harder and harder for us to travel with dogs and go to places. We always stay at Red Roof Inn, even if we don't travel with a dog, or La Quinta, because they're so good to dog people. Even when I don't have a dog, I seek those out because I just appreciate that they're so nice.

**Laura Reeves:**

La Quinta and Best Western were my favorite hotels when I was showing dogs.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Yeah. Some of them have floors now that don't have carpet on them, so they're easier to keep clean. The dog hair doesn't roll all over like tumbleweeds when you go to checkout. So it's just a really important thing to be considerate to the people who are allowing us to travel with our dogs.

**Laura Reeves:**

Be nice. Just be nice guys.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Not everybody likes dogs. It's hard to imagine. But there are people that don't like dogs.

**Laura Reeves:**

Well, and there's people who are afraid of them. There's people who are allergic to them. So respect and courtesy go an awful long way to all of us. And I know that my listeners are absolutely going to be top of the mark on that, but encourage everyone around you.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Yes. Yeah, for sure. So let's see travel light. Don't take too much extra stuff. Not everybody's going to be in the group ring so you don't have to have three outfits to wear.

**Laura Reeves:**

Hey man, I packed eight pairs of shoes. Don't even start with me.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Yeah. I'm not good at traveling light, but when you fly, you have to be a little bit more thoughtful about it. And it's also a good idea if you can rent some of the equipment instead of having to fly with it, some of the specialties will let you do that. I actually don't know what Westminster does with that.

**Laura Reeves:**

You know what's really good, certain ones of the hotels. Hotel Pennsylvania, and I believe now the New Yorker also, have downstairs they have exercise areas. They have grooming areas. So for people who aren't aware of this, definitely check into it. Even if you're not staying at that hotel, frequently, they will allow you to purchase time to bath your dog, or exercise your dog. Oh, I know our other one. Exercising your dog. Streets in New York City are not pristinely clean.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Not even a little bit.

**Laura Reeves:**

I was telling you the story earlier, not my very first trip to the garden, but one of my early trips to the garden, I had a Clumber Spaniel, my old best in show dog. And I said, "Hey, let's go for a walk." Not having any idea, because I'm a hick from the sticks. I had no clue that dog came back looking like an Oreo cookie. Black on the bottom and white for about two inches on top of him. Terrifying. Outfits. If you have a coated breed, even if you don't have a coated breed, and if you're going to take your dog for a walk on the streets, put it in an outfit, or be ready to spend a great deal of time bathing.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

And have arrangements to bath them, because there isn't an opportunity to do that in some of the hotel rooms. So again, be thoughtful about what the rules are. So yeah, having something in advance helps. And I was just telling you, too, that I saw yesterday on the internet that you can buy an umbrella that has the ability to have a coffee cup hooked

into the handle of it. You can walk your dog, have your coffee, and have your umbrella if it's a rainy day, and it's promising to be maybe a little bit rainier than most years.

**Laura Reeves:**

Yes. Yeah. I think it's going to be warm this year. Yeah. I'm super excited about that. Like I said, the year that it was below zero, and they closed all the restaurants. A friend of mine and I were going out to dinner and all the restaurants were closed. Pipes burst. I mean, it was bad. This was three or four years ago.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Yeah. It can be bad. So a couple of other things, this will be up on the website, right?

**Laura Reeves:**

Yes, yes. This list that you made. So there's lots more information. Marty has done a wonderful checklist for you guys that will be in the blog post. So definitely go to the website and print this out, because this is good information.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

So two quick other things. One is when I fly with a dog, I try to fly with a bag that says the airline name on it so they don't question you as to whether it's going to fit under the seat. So for instance, Southwest, or whatever airline you fly on, you can buy a bag either from Southwest. I bought mine on the secondhand market that says Southwest on it. And as soon as they see their logo on the bag, they make the assumption accurately that it's an approved bag for the airline. So it's less stuff to have to go through.

**Laura Reeves:**

That's a good one.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Yeah. And the other one, because I bought two for the same price, when I bought it the last time. The other thing is if you do see working canines at the airport, or in the travel facilities, just be conscientious that you don't have your dog in a place that they're going to be particularly distracting to that dog, or in some way be difficult. I always worry when I go past those vapor dogs that they're going to tap me because I probably was just around a dog in heat, and it's going to be a male, and he's going to be like, oh, she smells interesting.

**Laura Reeves:**

All of us have the same problem. We are dog lovers, right? So we're like, Oh, I want to pet the puppy. No don't pet the puppy. Yeah.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Again, they're not entertained. The vapor dog's handlers don't have any more of a sense of humor than the TSA. They're hardworking people. They're good people. They're doing the thing that they need to do for our safety, but they're not there to be entertained, or to be entertaining. So just really be thoughtful about how you approach those circumstances so that you don't get tossed.

**Laura Reeves:**

Absolutely. Absolutely. That would be the worst. All right. Well Marty, thank you so much. As I said listeners, all of this information and more, a lot more, will be on the blog post and we will see you all in New York City.

**Dr. Marty Greer:**

Can't wait.

**Laura Reeves:**

Excellent. Thanks Marty.

As always, if you have any questions or input, we'd love to hear from you. The show notes and links to resources on today's topic are available at [puredogtalk.com](http://puredogtalk.com). Drop us a note in the comments, or email to [laura@puredogtalk.com](mailto:laura@puredogtalk.com). Remember guys, this podcast is for you. So if you want to know something, give me a holler. We'll do a podcast for you. If you wouldn't mind, you could help me out here. Take a couple minutes to visit iTunes and give us a review.

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