



Admiral Perry Obedience Training Club
Airedale Terrier Club of Greater Philadelphia
Allentown Dog Training Club
Anthracite Brittany club
Bald Eagle Kennel Club
Berks County Kennel Club
Bernese Mt Dog Club of Watchung
Bucks County Kennel Club
Bull Terrier Club of Philadelphia
Bulldog Club of Philadelphia
Butler County Kennel Club
Butler Dog Training Association
Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club of DE Valley
Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Fanciers of
Susquehanna Valley
Central PA K9 Performance Club
Chambersburg Area Kennel Club
Colonial Rottweiler Club
Dachshund Fanciers Assoc. of Berks County
Dauphin Dog Training Club
Delaware County Kennel Club
DV Bullmastiff Club
DV Dalmatian Club
DV German Shepherd Dog Club
DV Havanese Club
DV Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club
Devon Dog Show Association
Erie Kennel Club
Greater Pittsburgh Golden Retriever Club
Greater Valley Forge Rhodesian Ridgeback Club
Harrisburg Kennel Club
Hatboro Dog Club
Hilltown Dog Training Club
Huntington Valley Kennel Club
Inter-State Shetland Sheepdog Club of PA
Kan-Do K9 Sports Association
Kennel Club of Philadelphia
Kerry Blue Terrier Club of Greater Pittsburgh
Keystone English Springer Spaniel Club
Lackawanna Kennel Club
Lancaster Kennel Club
Lebanon County Kennel Club
Lehigh German Shepherd Dog Club
Lehigh Valley Kennel Club
Liberty English Cocker Spaniel Fanciers
Lower Bucks Dog Training Club
Middle Atlantic St Bernard Club
Montgomery County Kennel Club
Obedience Training Class of Harrisburg
PA Animal Wellness and Safety Assoc.
PA Sled Dog Club
Penn Ridge Kennel Club
Penn Treaty Kennel Club
Pocono Mountain Kennel Club
Poodle Club of the Lehigh Valley
Saucon Valley Boxer Club
Schuylkill Valley German Shorthaired Pointer Club
Siberian Husky Club of DV
South Eastern Keystone Chinese Shar-Pei Club
Suburban Dog Training Club
Tioga County Kennel Club
Tri State Dog Obedience Club
Waterland Retriever Club
Western PA Dachshund Club
William Penn Poodle Club
Williamsport Dog Training Club

Dogs are Barking About...

Pennsylvania Federation of Dog Clubs Newsletter

Volume I, 2026

Philly Ban Report

On February 3, 2026, I was honored to represent the PFDC at Philadelphia City Hall to present our position on the proposed Philadelphia Breeding Moratorium designed as a temporary ban, with a review in 3 years to make it permanent.

The Temporary Ban was announced at the end of January with a hearing on February 3. I sensed immediately this was to be pushed through as fast as possible and before it could catch traction in the press or with opponents of the bill.

This ban was proposed by the Philadelphia City council to curb overcrowding of their facilities. To bolster their argument for the ban, they inferred they were operating as a kill shelter on a daily basis during the hearing.

As part of my preparation, I asked the Pennsylvania Dog Law offices how many Dog Law Licensees were in the city; I was given "a number of 60." This is nearly all rescues and shelters, including Boarding Kennels. Anyone breeding their lines and reaching the 25 "kept" dogs in a year (including puppies) would be a fairly uncommon occurrence in the city. I felt it safe to ascertain that very few registered Pennsylvania Private Kennels are in the City of Philadelphia, and that this breeding ban was going to disproportionately affect the hobby enthusiast and occasional breeder who competes at any level or in any registry. I mention this because the Philadelphia City council had a fix for this: Anyone wishing to breed should get a BDLE license, regardless of the logical impossibility of this happening in Philadelphia with zoning laws. A legal requirement that cannot be met is functionally a ban for all. In short, I knew that our own constituency of the PFDC stood to lose the most and were most likely to be affected, if not here in Philadelphia, then Pittsburgh, Altoona, State College, Allentown/Bethlehem, Lackawanna County or anywhere they will surely take it next.

It also was clear to me that this would not affect people who indiscriminately breed any canine for opportunism, nor would I expect it to slow people who are breeding street protection or fighting dogs, because as that continuum goes, respect for the law dissolves proportionately.

I was also sure that this law would not encourage the Philadelphia Dog Control Facility ACCT Philly to take more proactive steps towards curbing the population and the natural reproduction of street dogs. This can be addressed through programs as well as laws which are currently in existence. Nothing is being done to address spay/neuter programs among street and feral dogs or those kept transiently by homeless people.

We believe that the ban purposely circumvents all legal recourse and unilaterally writes out Pennsylvanians who participate in the annual \$300 million canine competition enthusiast industry in Pennsylvania via Competition, Sporting and Leisure.

Responsible breeders do not have their own dogs end up in shelters unless they are being scanned for microchips and being returned to their owner immediately. Responsible breeders write in their contracts that dogs must be returned to them rather than dropped at a shelter.

The data is clear: There are virtually no pure-bred dogs in rescues and shelters.

Philly Ban Report (continued)

While at the council hearing meeting, I presented these and some other thoughts in front of demonstrators and a chorus of signs being held in support of the Ban, The members had nearly no questions for me except for wanting me to come up with a percentage of responsible breeders dogs who wind up in rescue. I gave them my thoughts about these numbers in the previous paragraph. But since I wanted to be factual, I stated that the data

does and never will exist for that question. I regret that I did not simply say ZERO! They pretended to cut me off.

I offered the help and collaboration of the entire Pennsylvania Federation of Dog Clubs in seeking to address the root causes of this overpopulation and to be an active ally in helping to solve it.

Jonathn C Stanley,
PFDC Legislative VC

Lower Bucks Dog Training Club Celebrates Its 50th Anniversary

It has been 50 years of dog training service to the communities in the Lower Bucks County, PA area as well as nearby New Jersey communities. During that time hundreds of dogs and owners have benefited from the training classes at LBDTC. A wide variety of classes have been offered over those 50 years. Currently the most popular classes feature several levels of obedience, starting with AKC Star Puppy, and moving up to classes leading to qualifying for a Canine Good Citizen Evaluation. Other favorite classes currently include several levels of Rally and an introductory level of Agility.

During the first few decades of our organization, we conducted classes in various available spaces. These locations included churches, libraries, schools and even some outdoor areas. The last few decades we have been in our leased facility, in a business complex we can call "home".

LBDTC has sponsored yearly AKC trials for decades. Currently, we sponsor multiple trials for Obedience, Rally and Agility. Our trials exemplify our commitment to dog training and companion sports with love and fun.

During the same period LBDTC has reached out to the community to support local organizations. One major effort for many years has been our semi-annual Pet Food Drive that collects dollars and food donations for local food pantries. Tons of food have been collected,

purchased and distributed through our efforts.

Over the years we have welcomed dog training and pet business representatives to make presentations to our membership on specific topics of interest. Speakers have included veterinarians, therapists, police canine officers, animal control officers and specialized dog training personnel.

At the same time, several groups of our membership and their certified dogs have conducted therapy support programs throughout the community by visiting schools, libraries, hospitals, nursing homes and convents supplying encouragement, motivation, comfort and enjoyment to the clients.

A primary reason why our organization has thrived for fifty years is credited to the dedicated membership. While the membership has evolved, changed, decreased and increased during this period, the central focus has always been helping the public to train their dogs to be family companions and responsible participants in their community.

With kind regards and appreciation,
Ken McKinney, Recording Secretary, LBDTC



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Colonial Rottweiler Club Celebrates its 70th Year Anniversary

In January 1956, 13 Rottweiler enthusiasts, led by Lurline and Bill Stahl, gathered for an organizational meeting at the Brewerytown Tavern in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. By April of that year, the American Kennel Club (AKC) officially approved the name “Colonial Rottweiler Club” (CRC).

The club’s early years saw steady milestones. In May 1958, CRC held its first Plan A Match at the Valley Forge Airport with eight dogs entered. Exactly one year later, in May 1959, the club hosted its very first Specialty in conjunction with the Trenton Kennel Club, featuring an entry of 13 dogs.

Over the decades, the club experienced remarkable growth. By November 1985, CRC reached a milestone of 400 active members and celebrated drawing 200 Rottweilers to its events. This past May 2026, the club proudly celebrated its 70th anniversary at the Annual Specialty, honoring seven decades of dedication to the breed.

CRC is proud to be the oldest active Rottweiler breed club in the United States. As an AKC-sanctioned Specialty Club, CRC represents members nationwide who are passionate about preserving and promoting the integrity, health, and working ability of the Rottweiler breed.



Our club brings together Rottweiler owners, breeders, handlers, and enthusiasts dedicated to responsible ownership, performance training, and ongoing education. CRC fosters camaraderie through shared learning, spirited competition, and community engagement—all in celebration of the Rottweiler’s versatility and temperament.

CRC members participate in a wide variety of canine sports and activities, from conformation and obedience to herding, carting, scent work, and therapy work. Whether

you’re a long-time fancier or a new Rottweiler owner eager to learn, you’ll find guidance, mentorship, and friendship within our community.

CRC will host the 2027 Specialty at In the Net in Palmyra, PA (and other venues) the week of May 7-13, 2027. Next year’s event will include Conformation, Rally, Obedience, Fast Cat, Herding, Tracking, Agility, Carting, and Scent Work, with many performance events offering an All-Breed trial as well as Rottweiler only performance events.

Radnor BOC Eyes Pet Store Ban

By Melissa Finley and Linda Stein (May 8, 2026, reprinted with permission)

Will new animal welfare law curb illegal trade?

The topic will be discussed in Monday's meeting. "How much is that doggy in the window?" will not be a question people ask in Radnor Township if an ordinance banning pet stores passes on May 11.

The Radnor Board of Commissioners approved the introduction to ban selling cats and dogs on April 27, and then added an amendment to include various other animal species, such as birds, reptiles, other mammals and fish.

The ordinance is sponsored by Ward 5 Commissioner Moira Mulroney.

"It's not only about protecting animals but I think it also protects our families," said Mulroney. "Too often puppies and kittens are sold in stores and they come from these large-scale commercial breeding operations," said Mulroney. "Otherwise known as puppy mills or kitten mills, and the animals are bred in really poor condition, with little regard to health, humane treatment or genetic soundness."

"And the result is families may unknowingly purchase pets that suffer from serious medical or behavioral issues. And that really is not only a financial burden but it can end up quite heartbreaking," she said.

The ordinance encourages adoption from shelters and animal rescues, or responsible breeders, she added. There are currently no retail pet stores in Radnor, but she was concerned that one might move into a vacant property.

Philadelphia and Pittsburgh also have bans on the sale of puppies and kittens, she said.

Grace Kelly, president Finding Shelter Animal Rescue, spoke in support of the ordinance and asked the BOC to add other species, as well.

"Birds and other species also come from pet mills," she said. "This would be a preventative measure."

"I've seen firsthand what happens when profit is placed above animal welfare. Since 2010, I've personally rescued nearly 10,000 dogs and puppies from breeders in Pennsylvania," she said.

She mentioned she recently rescued a poodle puppy that needed heart surgery because of a birth defect. The surgery cost \$10,000. Another puppy she rescued died of cardiac arrest.

She suggested that the commissioners imagine residents' children who "bonded with and loved their (sick) puppy."



Credit: Daisy D. / Unsplash.com

Kelly noted that Easton was the first municipality to pass a ban on pet stores that sell any species of live animal.

"After Easton passed their ordinance, one of the big chains got rid of all their animals," said Kelly.

The board agreed to amend their ordinance after hearing her testimony.

Asked to comment on the ordinance, Linda Witouski, legislation chair for the Pennsylvania Federation of Dog Clubs, said that organization "supports the freedom and right of individuals to acquire a pet from a place of their own choosing. We oppose the removal of that freedom and right and therefore, oppose legislation that bans the sale of dogs in pet stores."

"Mandating that pet stores only source or provide space for shelter or rescue dogs restricts consumer choice," she added. "Pet store sales bans often rely on inaccurate information regarding 'puppy mills.' Commercial kennels are USDA licensed and inspected and should not be in the same paragraph as 'puppy mills.'"

The Pennsylvania Federation of Dog Clubs and the American Kennel Club advocate for various sources of dogs, allowing consumers to find their forever companions, whether it be from a responsible breeder, a regulated pet shop, shelter or rescue."

"It should also be noted that health issues can occur with any dog, regardless of the source," Witouski added.

This article is also available online at <https://mainlinenow.com/news/government/radnor-boc-eyes-pet-store-ban/>

Upcoming Events

The **Tri-State Dog Obedience Club** has a number of upcoming events. Premium lists, entry forms, and online entry information can be found on their website: <https://tristatedogobedienceclub.org/CalendarofEvents.shtml>

- UKC Nosework Trials – Sunday, June 7
- Obedience Match indoors at TSDOC – Saturday, June 13
- Obedience Match indoors at TSDOC – Saturday, July 18
- 2-Day Scent Work Seminar with Ana Cilursu - Saturday, Aug. 1 & Sunday, Aug. 2

The **Schuylkill Valley German Shorthaired Pointer Club** is hosting a Mock Hunt Test on Sunday, August 30, and Hunt Tests on Saturday and Sunday, October 10 and 11, 2026, at the Freeland Kennel Club in Weatherly, Pennsylvania. Details will be posted on the club's website at <https://svgspc.org>.

The next **PFDC Annual Dinner** meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 16, 2026, in the Harrisburg area.

Dachshund Fancier's Association of Berks County's 2026 earth dog tests, open to all eligible breeds. Two tests on Sat. Saturday, September 19, 2026, 1 test on Sunday morning, September 20, 2026. Tests held on the Cumberland Valley Earth Dog Grounds, 250 Roxbury Rd., Newville, Pennsylvania 17241

Tests Offered

- Introduction to Quarry: 10 feet, one 90-degree turn.
- Novice: Same as IQ
- Junior: 30 feet, three 90-degree turns. Open to all eligible dogs, regardless of titles earned.
- Senior: 30 feet, three 90-degree turns, with false den, false exit; dogs must be recalled out of the den. Open to all dogs that have completed a JE, SE, or ME title.
- Master: 30 feet, three 90-degree turns, with false den, false exit: dogs must accurately indicate entrance and honor another working dog.

Open to all dogs that have completed an SE or ME title. Friday, September 18, 2024

DFABC will have a special "Meet the Rat" session. This event will feature a live rat and above-ground tunnel to familiarize the dogs with Earth dog a nominal fee of \$5.00 per dog will be charged.

- Camping: is available by reservation, no hookups.
- Food: Will be available. Light Breakfast, and full lunch on Sat.
- Sun. AM Light breakfast only.
- For More Info. Contact the Chair: David Simmons -Chair
- Phone: (732) 598-4961
- Email: stardox2@yahoo.com