Behavior problems are a leading cause of pet relinquishment and euthanasia. Conditions such as anxiety, compulsive disorders or aggression can be stressful on a family and result in a breakdown of the human-animal bond. These are not “training” or “obedience” problems, but rather deep emotional issues which require careful, methodical, targeted, evidence-based, humane, fear-free, positive, and non-confrontational treatments for our patients.

Veterinarians are in a unique position to diagnose and treat your pet's behavior problem, thanks to their formal training in behavioral neuroscience, psychology, genetics, learning theory, animal welfare, and current research. Behavioral issues are complex and multifactorial, and can result from historical circumstances, environmental triggers, neurochemical imbalances, emotional stressors, medical conditions, learned associations, or conflicts over social structures. Unfortunately, many self-proclaimed animal trainers are unlicensed and unregulated, lack adequate credentials, and continue to spread biased myths and methodologies about animal behavior that have long been debunked. Behavioral problems are often not easily solvable and require a broad knowledge of factors associated with both animals and humans. Seeking competent, qualified, professional guidance can help you achieve the best possible learning outcomes for everyone involved.

Though dogs and cats are our most frequent visitors, we will also see birds, reptiles, exotic mammals, and permitted wildlife. We can assist in the development of behavior modification techniques, environmental enrichment, management strategies, hands-on exercises, and specialized systems to improve the behavior and well-being of any animal in your care. We are committed to helping you understand your pet’s behavior and achieve realistic goals which provide safety, harmony and comfort for everyone in the home. We can also provide home-visits for an additional fee.

Please fill out our behavior consultation request form (either on paper, via email, or online through our website) as completely and accurately as possible. The information you provide will be very important in understanding the needs of your pet and family, as well as for diagnosing and treating your pet’s behavior problem.

Once we have received this form back from you, Dr. Tereza DeMuth will review and then contact you to schedule an appointment. Thank you!
BEHAVIOR CONSULTATION REQUEST FORM

Client / Owner Information - You must be 18 years of age or older to complete this form.

Last Name __________________________________________ First Name __________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________________

Spouse/Co-owner (s)

________________________________________________________________________________

Address _____________________________________ City ______________________ State ________ Zip

______________________________________________

Phone # ___________________________________ E-Mail ________________________________________________

Primary Care Veterinarian(s):

________________________________________________________________________________

Would you like your pet’s medical record sent to your primary care veterinarian post-consultation? ☐ Yes ☐ No

How did you hear about us?

________________________________________________________________________________

General Information

Pet’s Name ______________________________ Species ___________________ Breed _________________________

__________________________ Color _________________________ Age _________________________

__________________________ Weight _________________________

Sex: ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Unknown Spayed or neutered? ☐ Yes ☐ No When? _________________________

At what age did you obtain your pet? _________________________ From where?

For what purpose did you obtain your pet? ☐ Companion ☐ Protection ☐ Breeding ☐ Sport ☐ Other:

__________________________

Describe any other animals who come into contact with this pet, including their species/age/sex and how/where they
interact: _____

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Describe any other people who come into contact with this pet, including their age and how/where they interact:

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

**Environment Details**

Describe your home layout, including how your pet is housed:

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Describe your pet’s typical day:

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________

Describe your pet’s personality:

________________________________________________________
Where is your pet kept?

- When the family is home: ________________________________________________________
- When the family is away: ________________________________________________________
- When the family is asleep: _______________________________________________________
- When guests visit: ______________________________________________________________

% of time spent indoors ____________________________            % of time spent outdoors ______________

How long and what times is your pet left alone / unsupervised during the day?

____________________________________________

Have there been any recent or past changes in your pet’s environment or schedule?

☐ Moved homes or renovated / redecorated       ☐ Boarded or spent time in another home       ☐ Change in food, litter, or bedding

☐ New (permanent or temporary) pet          ☐ New (permanent or temporary) family/household member       ☐

Divorce / separation

☐ New job or commitment       ☐ This pet is newly adopted       ☐ Other:

____________________________________________

If so, describe the situation, and how has this affected your pet’s behavior?

____________________________________________

____________________________________________
Diet
When is your pet fed? _____________________________________          By whom?
_____________________________________

Provide the exact brand and formulation/type of food(s), including measured volume per meal and percent of total diet: _____________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________

Describe any table scraps or treats:
_______________________________________________________________________________________

Medical History
Date of last physical examination: __________________________________________
Date of last bloodwork: __________________________________________

List all major surgical and/or medical history and approximate dates:
__________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________

List all medications and supplements (dosage, schedule, duration) currently being taken by your pet:
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
Behavior Questionnaire

Describe your pet’s behavioral issue that you’d like us to address:

_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________

When and where was this behavior first noticed?

_______________________________________________________________________________________

How often does it occur?

_______________________________________________________________________________________

Why do you think this behavior is occurring?

_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________

Has this behavior changed/progressed over time, and how so?

_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________

What are the circumstances before and after the event, and are there any patterns you can identify around which this behavior occurs?

_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
What behaviors would you prefer from your pet in these situations?

_______________________________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________

What corrective strategies have you attempted so far, and what have the results been? IE describe how YOU respond in these situations, and any tools/tactics/discipline/medications/supplements/resources you have tried:

_______________________________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________

How does your pet handle unfamiliar people, other animals, and new environments?

_______________________________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________

Does your pet exhibit any of the other problem behaviors below?

☐ Incontinence / house soiling / marking ☐ Shy / fears / phobias ☐ Unruly / poor impulse control ☐

☐ Jumping on people

☐ Pulling on a lead ☐ Dietary indiscretion / getting into trash / counter surfing ☐ Obsessive compulsive or
Routines and Behaviors

[ ] Separation anxiety
[ ] Aggression (growling/lunging/biting) towards other dogs or animals
[ ] Fighting housemates
[ ] Aggression (growling/lunging/biting) towards people
[ ] Territorial / protective
[ ] Chasing / excessive prey drive
[ ] Sexual / excessive humping
[ ] Itching / over-grooming / self-mutilation
[ ] Escaping / roaming / running away
[ ] Confusion / forgetting previous training / inability to recognize friends or family
[ ] Pacing / aimless wandering / circling
[ ] Lethargy / exercise intolerance / excessive sleeping
[ ] Swallowing non-food items
[ ] Marking / house soiling
[ ] Destruction (chewing/scratching/eating) of property
[ ] Excessive barking/vocalization
[ ] Other:
[ ]

What commands or cues does your pet know?

_______________________________________________________________________________________

Has your pet had any formal behavior class or obedience training?  [ ] No  [ ] Yes  When?

_______________________________________________________________________________________

Please describe:
[ ] Class: __________________________  [ ] Private Instructor: __________________________  [ ]

Trained my own pet

What type of collar(s) do you use?
[ ] Flat  [ ] Choke / Martingale  [ ] Pinch / Prong  [ ] Head halter (gentle leader)
[ ] Body harness  [ ] Corrective (shock / spray / sound / vibrating)  [ ] Medicated (flea / tick)  [ ] Elizabethan collar (cone)
[ ] Muzzle  [ ] None
Please discuss, in detail, any other information that you feel is relevant to your pet’s behavior:

_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________

IMPORTANT POINTS FOR YOUR BEHAVIOR CONSULTATION:

***Please fast your pet prior to our appointment (exceptions to this include rabbits, rodents, ferrets, and if medically necessary) and bring a large bag of their favorite treats from home with you.

***Please be aware that a physical examination and some lab work may be recommended if a medical condition is suspected and/or if prescription medications are deemed an appropriate option for your pet.

***IF IT IS SAFE TO DO SO, please try to capture video(s) of your pet’s behavioral issue (including the events preceding and following the problem) which we can review together to try and help us understand the pet’s environment, pinpoint variables at play, observe human/animal body language, identify potential triggers, and implement some management tools and strategies into practice.

We look forward to seeing you!