



TRI-STATE COLLIE RESCUE THE COLLIE ADVOCATE

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2026



A message from:

The Board of Directors

As we welcome summer, we want to thank our adopters, volunteers, fosters, donors, and supporters for helping us continue our mission of giving Collies a second chance.

Because of your dedication, Collies in need are finding safety, care, and loving homes. Every adoption, donation, transport, and shared post helps change a life.

We hope you enjoy this issue of our newsletter and wish you and your Collies a happy, healthy, and memorable summer.

Thank you for being part of the Tri State Collie Rescue family.

The Board of Directors

Tri State Collie Rescue



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TSCR SCORECARD

January - June 2026

- 46 Adoptions
- 43 Intakes
- 2 Heartworm Positive
- 10 Lyme Disease Positive

**TSCR | FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

One Breed, One Mission: How Breeders and Rescue Can Work Together for Collies

For many years, breeders and rescue organizations have often been viewed as occupying separate corners of the dog world. In reality, both share a common goal: ensuring the lifelong well-being of the Collies we love.

Responsible breeders work to preserve the breed through careful planning, health testing, and a commitment to every dog they produce. Rescue organizations provide a safety net for Collies whose circumstances have changed through no fault of their own. While their roles may differ, both are united by a shared responsibility to the breed.

At Tri State Collie Rescue, we believe some of the best outcomes happen when breeders and rescue volunteers work together. Whether assisting with owner surrenders, supporting rehoming efforts, sharing resources, or educating prospective owners, collaboration benefits both individual dogs and the breed as a whole.



This commitment to cooperation extends beyond our rescue. Members of the Tri State Collie Rescue Board actively participate on the Collie Rescue Committee of the Collie Health Foundation, working alongside breeders, rescue advocates, and Collie enthusiasts from across the country to support the welfare of Collies in need.



COLLIE HEALTH FOUNDATION

Through these efforts, we help strengthen connections, share best practices, and promote responsible stewardship of the breed.

Every Collie deserves a lifetime of care and advocacy. By working together—breeders, rescue volunteers, adopters, veterinarians, and owners—we create a stronger future for the breed and ensure that no Collie is left behind.

At the end of the day, we are not separated by breeder, rescuer, or owner. We are united by something much more important: our love for Collies and our commitment to their well-being. One breed. One mission. One community.

**TSCR | COLLIE HEALTH**

Understanding the MDR1 Mutation

Collies are known for their intelligence, loyalty, and gentle nature. They are also one of several breeds that may carry a genetic mutation known as MDR1, making it important for owners to be informed about their dog's health and medication safety.

What Is the MDR1 Mutation?

MDR1 stands for Multidrug Resistance 1, a gene that helps regulate how certain medications are transported out of the brain and other tissues. Dogs with the MDR1 mutation have an altered version of this gene, which can allow certain drugs to accumulate in the body at potentially toxic levels.

A dog may be:

- Normal/Normal (no mutation)
- Normal/Mutant (carrier)
- Mutant/Mutant (affected)

Because Collies have one of the highest rates of the MDR1 mutation, responsible owners should be aware of their dog's status whenever possible.

**Why Should Collie Owners Care?**

Most Collies with the MDR1 mutation live completely normal lives. The concern arises when certain medications are administered without knowledge of the dog's MDR1 status.

Affected dogs may experience severe neurological reactions, including:

- Excessive drooling
- Tremors
- Loss of coordination
- Weakness
- Blindness
- Seizures
- Coma

Fortunately, these reactions are preventable when veterinarians and owners are aware of the mutation and take appropriate precautions.



TSCR | COLLIE HEALTH

Common Medications to Discuss With Your Veterinarian

While not every medication affects MDR1-positive dogs, several commonly used drugs deserve special consideration.

1. **Ivermectin:** Historically, ivermectin has been the medication most often associated with MDR1 sensitivity. High doses can cause severe neurological toxicity in affected dogs.
2. **Loperamide (Imodium®):** A common over-the-counter anti-diarrheal medication, loperamide can cause serious side effects in MDR1-affected dogs and should only be used under veterinary guidance.



Certain Sedatives and Anesthetics

Some pre-anesthetic and sedation medications may require adjustment based on a dog's MDR1 status.

Certain Chemotherapy Drugs

Several chemotherapy medications are known to be affected by MDR1 status and require careful veterinary management.

Other Medications

Additional medications may warrant discussion with your veterinarian depending on your dog's health needs and MDR1 status.

What About Heartworm Prevention?

Many Collie owners have questions about heartworm prevention and MDR1.

Interceptor® (milbemycin oxime) has a long history of safe use in Collies when administered according to label directions and is the heartworm preventative recommended by Tri State Collie Rescue. As with any medication, owners should consult their veterinarian regarding the best preventative program for their individual dog.

Should My Dog Be Tested?

Genetic testing for MDR1 is simple and can provide valuable information for a dog's lifetime. Many breeders test their breeding stock and provide MDR1 information to puppy buyers. If you are unsure of your dog's status, speak with your veterinarian about whether testing may be appropriate.



Knowledge Is Protection

The MDR1 mutation is not something Collie owners should fear—but it is something they should understand. Awareness allows owners and veterinarians to make informed decisions that help keep Collies safe and healthy throughout their lives.

By knowing your dog's MDR1 status, maintaining open communication with your veterinarian, and staying informed about medication safety, you can help ensure your Collie receives the best possible care for years to come.

**TSCR | COLLIE HEALTH**

Summer Safety Tips: Summer Is Here



Summer is a wonderful time to enjoy outdoor adventures with our Collies, but warmer temperatures also bring unique challenges. Whether you're heading to a dog show, enjoying a walk through the neighborhood, or spending time in the backyard, a few simple precautions can help keep your Collie safe, comfortable, and healthy all season long.

Heat and Humidity: The Hidden Danger

Collies are generally more comfortable in cooler temperatures than many people realize. While their coats provide insulation from both heat and cold, excessive heat and humidity can quickly become dangerous.

Signs of heat stress may include:

- Excessive panting
- Drooling
- Weakness
- Lethargy
- Bright red gums
- Vomiting
- Collapse

On hot days, schedule walks during the early morning or evening hours and provide access to shade whenever your Collie is outdoors. Remember that humidity can make it difficult for dogs to cool themselves effectively, even when temperatures may not seem extreme.

Grooming Myths: Don't Shave That Coat!

One of the most common misconceptions about Collies is that shaving their coat helps keep them cool.

In reality, a Collie's double coat acts as natural insulation, helping protect them from both heat and sun exposure. Shaving can disrupt this protective function and may increase the risk of sunburn and coat damage.

Instead of shaving, focus on:

- Regular brushing to remove dead undercoat
- Managing mats and tangles
- Maintaining good overall coat condition
- Ensuring adequate airflow through the coat

A well-maintained coat is often the best defense against summer heat.

**Hydration Matters**

Fresh, clean water should always be available, especially during the summer months.

When traveling, consider carrying:

- A portable water bowl
- Bottled water
- Cooling towels
- Extra water for longer outings

Encourage your Collie to take frequent water breaks during exercise, training, and outdoor events.

Puppies, seniors, and dogs with medical conditions may be particularly vulnerable to dehydration.



TSCR | COLLIE HEALTH

Watch Those Pavement Temperatures

Air temperature doesn't tell the whole story. Asphalt, concrete, and other surfaces can become dangerously hot during summer weather. Even when the air temperature is in the 80s, pavement temperatures can exceed 130°F.

A simple test: Place the back of your hand on the pavement for seven seconds. If it's too hot for your hand, it's too hot for your dog's paws.

Whenever possible:

- Walk on grass
- Choose shaded routes
- Exercise during cooler parts of the day
- Consider protective booties for extended outings

Burned paw pads can be painful and may require weeks to heal.



Swimming Safety

Many Collies enjoy water, but not all Collies are natural swimmers.

If your dog enjoys swimming:

- Introduce water gradually
- Never force a reluctant dog into the water
- Supervise all swimming activities
- Rinse chlorine, salt, or lake water from the coat afterward
- Consider a canine life jacket for boating or deep-water activities

Always watch for signs of fatigue. Even strong swimmers can become tired more quickly than expected.

Enjoy Summer Safely

Summer adventures create wonderful memories, but safety should always come first. By paying attention to temperature, hydration, grooming, and outdoor conditions, you can help ensure your Collie remains happy, healthy, and comfortable throughout the season.

A little preparation goes a long way toward making summer fun for both you and your Collie.



Car Safety

Never leave your dog unattended in a vehicle during warm weather, even for a few minutes.

Temperatures inside a parked car can rise rapidly, reaching dangerous levels that can cause heatstroke, organ failure, or death.

If you're traveling with your Collie, make sure the air conditioning is working properly, provide plenty of fresh water, and plan rest stops where your dog can safely stretch and cool down. Remember: if it's too hot for you to sit comfortably in a parked car, it's far too hot for your dog.

**TSCR | FOSTERING 101**

What Fostering Is Really Like

When people think about fostering, they often picture saying goodbye. What they may not realize is that fostering is really about saying "yes."

Yes to giving a Collie a safe place to land.
Yes to helping a frightened dog learn to trust again.
Yes to opening your home and heart to a dog who needs a second chance.



At Tri State Collie Rescue, foster homes are the foundation of everything we do. Before a Collie can find a forever family, they need a temporary family—a place where they can decompress, receive veterinary care, learn routines, and simply be a dog again.

Some foster dogs arrive confused and uncertain. Others may have spent years in loving homes before life circumstances changed. Many simply need a safe place to stay while we search for the perfect match.

Fostering is not about perfection. It is about compassion. You don't need to be a trainer or behavior expert. You don't need a large property or decades of dog experience. What foster dogs need most is patience, consistency, and kindness.

As one foster volunteer shared:

"Watching a Collie blossom in foster care is one of the most rewarding experiences imaginable. The first wag of a tail, the first toy they claim as their own, the first time they truly relax and realize they are safe—those moments make every effort worthwhile. Saying goodbye is never easy, but knowing they are beginning a new chapter with a loving family makes it all worthwhile."

The truth is that fostering saves lives. Every available foster home creates space for another Collie in need. Without foster homes, rescue simply cannot happen.

Whether you can foster for a few weeks, a few months, or help with special situations such as seniors, puppies, or medical cases, your support can make a lasting difference.

If you have ever considered fostering, we encourage you to reach out. You may be surprised to discover that while you are changing a Collie's life, they are changing yours as well.

Interested in Becoming a Foster Home?

Tri State Collie Rescue is always looking for compassionate volunteers willing to open their homes to Collies in need. We provide support throughout the process and work closely with our foster families to ensure both the dog and volunteer have the resources they need to succeed.

To learn more about becoming a foster volunteer, contact us today. One open door can change a life.





TSCR | FEATURE STORY

Unexpected Foster Journey

When Belle arrived in foster care, we quickly realized she might be pregnant. A veterinary exam confirmed our suspicions—Belle was expecting a large litter, and the puppies were due in just a matter of days. With no prior experience raising a litter, we suddenly found ourselves learning everything we could about whelping and neonatal puppy care.



With guidance from the rescue and experienced volunteers, we prepared as quickly as possible. Belle went into labor just days later and delivered eight beautiful tri-color puppies—three boys and five girls. Despite being a first-time mother, she immediately proved to be calm, attentive, and incredibly nurturing.

The first week brought both joy and heartbreak. One puppy, Chip, struggled from the start. With around-the-clock care and support from the rescue, we did everything possible to help him, but sadly he passed away at the end of the week. While devastating, we remained focused on Belle and her seven thriving puppies.



“Belle was an exceptional mother, and watching her teach her puppies to play and explore was one of the highlights of the experience.”

Over the following weeks, the puppies grew rapidly. Our dining room became a full-time puppy nursery as we learned about weaning, socialization, and puppy development. Belle was an exceptional mother, and watching her teach her puppies to play and explore was one of the highlights of the experience.

Before we knew it, adoption day arrived. Saying goodbye to the puppies was bittersweet, and eventually it was Belle's turn as well. She found a wonderful home with a family who had also adopted one of her puppies—a perfect ending for a very special dog.

We remain grateful to Tri-State Collie Rescue and the many volunteers who supported us throughout this journey. Special thanks to Barb and George for their guidance, and to everyone who donated supplies and encouragement along the way. Watching Belle's puppies grow up in their forever homes continues to bring us tremendous joy, and we will always cherish the opportunity to have been part of their story.

Beth and Chris Quinn

**TSCR | BEHIND THE RESCUE**

Volunteer Spotlight: Beth & Christopher Quinn

Behind every successful rescue is a team of dedicated volunteers willing to open their hearts—and their homes—to dogs in need. This month, we are proud to shine a spotlight on Beth and Christopher Quinn.



As foster volunteers for Tri State Collie Rescue, Beth and Chris provide a safe and loving environment for Collies as they prepare for their forever homes. Their commitment to rescue extends beyond fostering, as Beth also serves on the Adoption Committee, helping to ensure that each dog is thoughtfully matched with the right family.

This spring, Beth and Chris welcomed Belle and her puppies into their home, providing the care, patience, and support that helped both mom and babies thrive. Fostering a litter is no small undertaking, requiring countless hours of cleaning, feeding, socialization, and monitoring, but Beth and Chris embraced the challenge with enthusiasm and dedication.



When they are not fostering, they share their home with two beloved tricolor Collies who help welcome foster dogs and remind us all what makes this breed so special.



Volunteers like Beth and Chris represent the very best of rescue. Their compassion, generosity, and willingness to step forward when dogs need help make a lasting difference in the lives of countless Collies and the families who adopt them.

On behalf of Tri State Collie Rescue, thank you, Beth and Chris, for your commitment, kindness, and unwavering support of our mission. We are grateful to have you as part of our rescue family.



TSCR | COLLIE TRIVIA CORNER

Do you know these facts?

How much do you know about the breed we all love? Test your Collie knowledge with these fun facts and bits of breed history!

Did You Know?

The Collie originated in Scotland and Northern England.

- The breed was developed as a herding dog, valued for its intelligence, endurance, and ability to work closely with shepherds in challenging terrain.

Queen Victoria helped popularize the breed.

- After visiting Scotland in the 1860s, Queen Victoria became enamored with Collies and kept several at her royal estates. Her admiration helped increase the breed's popularity throughout Great Britain.

Collies were once working farm dogs.

- Long before they became beloved family companions, Collies spent their days herding sheep and protecting livestock in the Scottish Highlands.

Rough and Smooth Collies are the same breed.

- The primary difference between the two varieties is coat length. Rough Collies have the familiar long coat, while Smooth Collies have a short, dense coat. Both varieties can be born in the same litter.

Collies are known for their intelligence.

- The breed consistently ranks among the most trainable dogs and excels in obedience, therapy work, herding, agility, and service dog roles.

Tag us @tristatecollieresue with a fun fact for next edition of the Collie Trivia Corner!

Famous Collies Through History

- **Lassie:** No discussion of famous Collies would be complete without Lassie. First appearing in a short story in 1938 and later in the novel *Lassie Come-Home*, Lassie became one of the most recognizable dogs in the world through books, films, television, and radio.
- **Pal:** The original Lassie was portrayed by a male Rough Collie named Pal. His intelligence and expressive nature launched a canine legacy that continues to this day.
- **Ch. Laund Loyalty of Bellhaven:** Often considered one of the most influential Collies in breed history, "Loyalty" left an extraordinary impact on Collie type and pedigrees around the world.
- **Trefoil and Tartanside:** Many of today's Collies can trace their pedigrees to influential kennels such as Trefoil and Tartanside, whose breeding programs helped shape the modern Collie.

True or False?

1. Collies can be born with either rough or smooth coats in the same litter.
2. Queen Victoria owned Collies.
3. Lassie was originally portrayed by a female dog.
4. Collies were originally developed as herding dogs.

Answers

1. *True*
2. *True*
3. *False (Lassie was portrayed by a male Collie named Pal.)*
4. *True*

Bonus Question

What year was the Collie Club of America founded?

Answer: 1886—That's over 140 years of Collie history and stewardship!

Stay tuned for more Collie trivia in our next issue. You never know what fascinating fact you might discover about your favorite breed!



TSCR | UPCOMING EVENTS & NEWS

TRI STATE COLLIE RESCUE

Celebrating Over 40 Years of Rescuing Collies

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD

12:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Join us for an afternoon of food, fun, and celebration, rain or shine!

We'll have a raffle, Collie items for sale, and more!

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

- Reunion of adopted Collies and their families
- Raffle prizes
- Collie-themed merchandise and items for sale
- Food and drinks included with admission
- Fun for the whole family – rain or shine!

LOCATION

SHAGBARK SHELTER @ BATTELLE DARBY CREEK METRO PARK
 1175 Darby Creek Drive
 Galloway, OH 43119

Collies on leash are welcome to attend, however because it is not a dog park, they must be leashed at all times.

ADMISSION

\$15
 PER PERSON
 INCLUDES FOOD AND DRINK

KIDS UNDER THE AGE OF 12 ARE FREE!

RSVP

Please RSVP via email to
Lassie5900@aol.com

*Thank you to our rescue families, supporters, and volunteers.
 Together, we make a difference in the lives of Collies!*

Please RSVP By September 20, 2026