



# Practical Guide to Swimming at the Essex Animal Hospital

## Hospital Staff Swimming Dog

### What to Bring

***For Your Dog:*** a flat collar, a lead, towels, floating toys (we have lots but you can bring your own)

1. Potty your dog before bringing him/her in for a swim.
2. Keep your dog on a leash at all times
3. A Hospital Staff Member will shower your dog before swimming.
4. A Hospital Staff Member will place swimming pants and a lifejacket on your dog.
5. A Hospital Staff Member will bring your dog in the pool and swim with your dog.
6. A Hospital Staff Member will remove your dog's lifejacket and swim pants.
7. A Hospital Staff Member will rinse your dog off in the dog shower and blow dry your dog.

### ***Please do not swim your dog if:***

1. It has a contagious disease i.e. diarrhea, skin rash, open sores
2. It has parasites.
3. It has not been approved for swimming by your veterinarian.

A swimming orientation is mandatory for the first session for every dog. During that session our therapist will determine your dog's swimming level and will approve no lifejacket swimming if appropriate.