

## Canine Good Citizen Test

The Canine Good Citizen (CGC) test consists of 10 skills needed by all well-mannered dogs. A Canine Good Citizen is a friendly, well-behaved dog that can be taken virtually anywhere without risk or bother to others -- a dog who behaves well in a crowd, has good manners when guests visit, is reliable around children, and who doesn't lunge, bark at, or threaten other dogs or passersby.

Lewis and Clark 4-H Dog Project will administer three CGC test opportunities. All dogs in the 4-H program must pass the CGC before participating in community service projects with the dogs, competing at the 4-H fair and training in agility, herding and/or therapy dog.

**Equipment:** All of the exercises are done on a leash. You'll need to bring your dog's brush or comb to the CGC test. In the CGC test, dogs must wear a buckle collar or slip collar.

### **Test 1: Accepting a friendly stranger**

The dog will allow a friendly stranger to approach it and speak to the handler in a natural, everyday situation.

### **Test 2: Sitting politely for petting**

The dog will allow a friendly stranger to pet it while it is out with its handler.

### **Test 3: Appearance and grooming**

The dog will welcome being groomed and examined and will permit someone, such as a veterinarian, groomer or friend of the owner, to do so.

### **Test 4: Out for a walk (walking on a loose lead)**

The handler/dog team will take a short "walk" to show that the dog is in control while walking on a leash.

### **Test 5: Walking through a crowd**

The dog and handler walk around and pass close to several people (at least three) to demonstrate that the dog can move about politely in pedestrian traffic and is under control in public places.

### **Test 6: Sit and down on command and staying in place**

The dog will respond to the handler's commands to 1) sit, 2) down and will 3) remain in the place commanded by the handler (sit or down position, whichever the handler prefers).

### **Test 7: Coming when called**

The dog will come when called by the handler. The handler will walk 10 feet from the dog, turn to face the dog, and call the dog.

### **Test 8: Reaction to another dog**

To demonstrate that the dog can behave politely around other dogs, two handlers and their dogs approach each other from a distance of about 20 feet, stop, shake hands and exchange pleasantries, and continue on for about 10 feet.

### **Test 9: Reaction to distraction**

To demonstrate the dog is confident when faced with common distracting situations, the evaluator will select and present two distractions. Examples of distractions include dropping a chair, rolling a crate dolly past the dog, having a jogger run in front of the dog, or dropping a crutch or cane.

### **Test 10: Supervised separation**

This test demonstrates that a dog can be left with a trusted person, if necessary, and will maintain training and good manners. Evaluators are encouraged to say something like, "Would you like me to watch your dog?" and then take hold of the dog's leash. The owner will go out of sight for three minutes.