

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pet-Friendly Office Seeking Office-Friendly Pets *NAPPS Offers Tips for Preparing for Fido's First Trip to Your Office*

MOUNT LAUREL, N.J., April 20, 2012 –The National Association of Professional Pet Sitters (NAPPS), a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the welfare of animals, is offering pet parents helpful tips as they gear up for their pup's first day as a visitor in the professional world.

Think back to your first day on the job: you probably had mixed emotions of excitement and anxiety; it's common for pets to experience similar feelings when they are introduced to a new environment. Although overtime, your office may have become your home away from home, it's most likely an unfamiliar atmosphere for your pup.

Luckily, pet parents can reduce feelings of fear and uncertainty by preparing for their furry friend's first trip to the office.

“Pet parents can create a calm and comforting environment for their pet by offering familiar items like a favorite toy or blanket,” said John D’Ariano, president of NAPPS. “A pet travel bag should be packed with favorite toys, treats, and first aid supplies anytime you take your dog on an adventure away from home.”

If your office is a pet-friendly business, it's important for you to prepare your dog to be an office-friendly pet. Before penciling in your pup's visit, NAPPS encourages pet parents to consider these tips:

- Evaluate how well your pet will react to the commute. Consult with your veterinarian and professional pet sitter about anxiety-relieving tactics and medicine, if necessary
- Consider how your pet will react to new people and other dogs in the workplace. Identify a safe place to retreat should the environment become hectic
- Create a plan for feeding, walking, and relieving your pet throughout the day
- Verify that your pet is up-to-date on vaccinations, flea and tick treatments prior to entering the office environment
- Keep your pet away from other pets' water bowls because this can spread illness and disease
- Identify a coworker willing to care for your pet should you be called into an extended or impromptu meeting
- Consider hiring a professional pet sitter to walk the office pets throughout the day. This will allow the office staff to continue their work day uninterrupted, keep the pets calm and well exercised and ensure the success of a dog-friendly work day.

By taking the proper precautions, you and your dog can both enjoy a pleasant day at the office. NAPPS reminds pet parents to keep their pet's safety and comfort as top priority.

About NAPPS: NAPPS is the only national nonprofit trade association dedicated to serving the needs of professional pet sitters. The Association aims to help the pet owning public, those interested in pet sitting, and professionals engaged in the in-home pet care industry by fulfilling

its vision statement, serving as "the most respected authority in professional pet sitting." It does so by providing the tools and support to foster the success of its members. Additionally, pet parents can benefit from NAPPS' free resources including a disaster preparedness guide, tips on how to select a pet sitter, and a nationwide referral service,. To find a pet sitter in your area, check out NAPPS' nationwide "Pet Sitter Locator" at www.petsitters.org. For more information on NAPPS, please follow [@TheNAPPS](https://twitter.com/TheNAPPS) on Twitter or join us on Facebook at facebook.com/TheNAPPS.

#

Media Contact:

Caitlin Watterson

Communications Coordinator

856-642-4218

cwatterson@ahint.com