

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Professional Pet Sitters Suggest “Woof”-Friendly Tactics When Taking Your Dog to Work**

*NAPPS urges pet parents to consider Fido’s comfort in the office environment*

MOUNT LAUREL, N.J., June 22, 2011 – Pet-friendly work environments are on the rise, and many pet parents occasionally elect to take their pets to their place of business. The National Association of Professional Pet Sitters (NAPPS), a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the welfare of animals, urges pet parents to consider the ultimate safety and comfort of their pets when taking their pet to work.

“The unfamiliar office environment can place stress on pets, and introduce them to allergens, diseases, fleas and ticks from other four-legged visitors,” states John D’Ariano, President of the National Association of Professional Pet Sitters. “In light of these potential safety threats, the pet’s well-being should be carefully considered before placing him in the office setting.”

For pet parents who choose to take their pet to work, NAPPS provides suggestions to make the day a positive experience:

- Is your pet prepared for the commute to work? Consult with your veterinarian and professional pet sitter about anxiety-relieving tactics and medicine if necessary.
- Is your dog prone to barking when placed in a new situation? Consider how your pet will react to new faces and other dogs in the workplace, and identify a safe place to retreat should the environment become hectic.
- Show courtesy to your coworkers by asking if they have allergies prior to the event.
- Create a plan for feeding, walking, and relieving your pet throughout the day.
- Make sure 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, as this can spread illness and disease.
- Identify a coworker willing to care for your pet should you be called into an extended meeting or phone call.

“NAPPS believes that with the right precautions, pet parents can enjoy a pleasant day at work with their furry friend,” comments D’Ariano. “We encourage pet parents to keep their pets’ best interest and welfare at heart when considering bringing the pet to work.”

**About NAPPS:** NAPPS is the only national non-profit 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](http://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](https://facebook.com/TheNAPPS).

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