



**Green Acres™  
Kennel Shop**

**Blog Note**

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## About Green Acres

Green Acres Kennel Shop is a pet care facility in Bangor, Maine offering boarding, daycare, grooming and pet behavior consultations for dogs and cats and their guardians.

Additionally, we offer group and private dog training classes, seminars and a wide array of wholesome, healthy pet foods and quality pet products.



In June of 2007, Green Acres became one of 89 kennels in the United States accredited through the American Boarding Kennel Association (ABKA), now the Pet Care Services Association (PCSA) Voluntary Facilities Accreditation program. The PCSA's VFA program represents a significant advance in the professionalization of the pet care industry. It establishes nationally-accepted standards of design and performance for pet care facilities. These standards were developed over a six-year period by a working committee of PCSA members which included pet care facility operators, pet owners, veterinarians and animal care experts. During the development stage of the program, PCSA members were surveyed and interviewed about many different phases of pet care facility operations and management procedures. The resulting program contains over 200 industry-recognized "Standards of Excellence."



Green Acres Kennel Shop has been voted the Bangor Regions Best Kennel in a survey conducted by Market Surveys of America every year since 2002. They have been voted the Bangor Regions Best Pet Store every year since 2007.

First established as a boarding kennel in 1965, Green Acres Kennel Shop has been owned by Don and Paula Hanson since 1995. The

Hanson's moved from Wisconsin to Bangor in order to purchase Green Acres Kennel Shop after deciding they wanted to own their own business and focus on their passion – dogs and cats.

Don Hanson is Green Acres' Director of Behavior Counseling and Training. As a Certified Dog Behavior Consultant (CDBC), Certified Pet Dog Trainer (CPDT) and Bach Foundation Registered Practitioner (BFRP) animal specialist, Don assists guardians and their pets with a wide range of behavioral problems.

A member of the Association of Pet Dog Trainers (APDT) since 1995, in 1998 Don was asked by Dr. Ian Dunbar to serve on the APDT's Education Committee. He was one of twenty dog



training professionals and behaviorists selected by the APDT to research and develop the first comprehensive written certification examination for pet dog trainers. He became one of the first trainers certified by the Certification Council for Professional Dog Trainers in September of 2001.

Health and behavioral issues with his own pets initiated Don's interest in complementary healthcare (for a full account of that story see *The Evolution of a Pet Care Professional* on our website, <http://tinyurl.com/3x7vk2>). In November of 2003, Don completed the coursework necessary to become the first Bach Foundation Registered Practitioner (BFRP) animal specialist in the United States.



Don is very involved in the pet community. He has served on the Bangor Humane Society Board of Directors since 1996 and was its President from 1998 through 2003. In 2001 he was first elected to the APDT Board of Directors. Elected again in 2004 he served as Vice President in 2005 and 2006 and President in 2007. He currently serves on the Maine state Animal Welfare Advisory Council (AWAC), representing licensed kennels.

Don has presented seminars on pet behavior, dog training, pet nutrition and Bach Flower Remedies in Canada, the Caribbean, Japan, and throughout the US. Don is the host of "The Woof-Meow" show, a weekly radio program on WVOM-FM. He also writes articles for the DownEast Dog News and other pet related publications.

Don is a certified member of the International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants (IAABC), a professional member of the Association of Pet Dog Trainers (APDT), and the Association of Animal Behavior Professionals (AABP), and a member of the Dog Writers Association of America (DWAA), the Pet Care Services Association (PCSA formerly ABKA), and Truly Dog Friendly (TDF).

Paula works in the front lines of Green Acres, managing the retail operations and checking in guests. She is responsible for much of the day to day business and customer service, ever searching out the highest quality products for the lowest prices to pass on to our clientele. She is a PCSA Certified Advanced Pet Care Technician. Additionally, due to her previous work experience, she has become Green Acres resident health care expert. Prior to buying Green Acres, Paula was a veterinary technician and office manager for a small animal practice in Madison, WI. An animal lover all her life, Paula has raised numerous dogs and cats.



Paula and Don are very interested in holistic and complementary health care for pets and people. They have both attended numerous seminars



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and workshops on nutrition, homeopathy, herbal medicine, and flower remedies.

Don and Paula share their home with 2 dogs and 3 cats; Tikken (a Golden Retriever and Dulcie a Cairn Terrier, Batman (a domestic short haired cat) and Thelma and Louise (the Green Acres two domestic short haired cats and official mouse patrol).



Don Hanson, BFRP, CDBC, CPDT  
co-owner, Green Acres Kennel Shop

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