



# Humane Society of West Michigan

## Canine Courses

**Why Attend Class? Teaching provides a means to communicate, better understand and build a relationship with our dogs! *We are asking the dog to live with us in our environment and according to our rules. It is only fair for us to teach our dog companions these rules.* A well mannered, socialized dog is a joy to live with and teaching is a crucial step toward ensuring your dog becomes a well-behaved and enjoyable family pet. Our classes will help you teach, socialize and communicate with your dog.**

**The teaching method is based on kindness and respect. We use positive reinforcement such as praise, toys, playtime, or treats to motivate and reward desirable behaviors.**

**Humane Society of West Michigan offers assistance with:**

- Socializing
- House Training
- Chewing
- Barking
- Play Biting
- Additional areas of concern

**Items needed for the classes:**

- Leash: 4 to 6 foot leather, nylon or cotton leash. Do NOT use chain as it is too hard on your hands during training and is hard-er to give clear signals to your dog. Also please NO retractable leashes.
- Collar: Nylon collars or martingale collars
- TREATS! Lots of soft and high rewarding treats (such as hotdogs).



**Cost:**

\$99/dog  
\$85/dog (if adopted from HSWM)  
\*Rebate available for Argus Alliance qualifying dogs

**Enrollment Requirements:**

Owners are required to send proof of vaccinations for **Distemper, Bordatella, and Rabies** for appropriately aged dogs.

Fees are non-refundable.

All classes are 6 weeks unless noted.

*Please see [www.hswestmi.org](http://www.hswestmi.org) for dates and times—subject to availability.*

*See the back of this form for class descriptions.*

### Humane Society of West Michigan—Canine Courses Registration Form

(please print clearly)

*Class sizes are limited—reserve your space today!  
Payment and vaccine records are due a week before class.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Dog's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Breed: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_

Did you get your pet from HSWM? \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Veterinarian or Clinic: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been through an obedience class before? \_\_\_\_\_ If so, where? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you experiencing any specific behavior problems you would like to address with us? \_\_\_\_\_

Desired class and start date: \_\_\_\_\_ Start date: \_\_\_\_\_

Staff Use Only:



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Recheck

### Option #1: Puppy Kindergarten—HSWM Training Center—Thursdays 7:10pm-8:00pm

Get your pup off to a good start with this puppy class! Learn to safely socialize your puppy and enjoy the playtime! Your puppy will not only learn basic skills, but how to be calm and relax. You and your puppy will learn how to play properly to avoid inappropriate mouthing and chewing. Puppy class is a great way to prevent some behavior issues from happening while learning effective ways to teach your puppy! Designed for puppies aged: Up to 16 weeks start of class. **Open enrollment, class is 5 consecutive weeks.**

### Option #2: AKC S.T.A.R.® Puppy—HSWM Training Center- Tuesdays 6:15pm-7:15pm

Get your pup off to a good start with this new program designed by the American Kennel Club. You'll learn how to effectively communicate with your dog and your pup will be able to socialize with other dogs. Upon completion of the course your puppy will be eligible for the AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy Medal along with various recognition through the American Kennel Club. Designed for puppies aged: 4 months - 1 year old.

### Option #3: Elementary School: Manners Matter—HSWM Training Center—Wednesdays 6:15pm-7:15pm

This class is designed for dogs 5 months and older who have never had a previous training class and for those who will benefit by taking the class again. The focus of the class is on good doggy manners and the basic cues of sit, stay, down, come, "leave it," and walking on a loose leash.

### Option #4: High School Jocks: Find the Beauty in your Beast—HSWM Training Center—Tuesdays 7:30pm-8:30pm

This unique class is designed to help you and your "bully" breed better understand each other. This class focuses on basic manners, basic cues and specific issues pertaining to reactive dogs and how best to manage their athletic skills and impulses. Dogs do NOT socialize with each other. **First night of class is WITHOUT dogs.**

### Option #5: High School Wallflowers: Find the Courage in your Canine—HSWM Training Center— Wednesdays 7:30pm-8:30pm

Is your dog a little shy around new people and dogs? This class is designed to teach basic manners and cues while building your dog's confidence by acquiring new skills. Dogs and people alike benefit from building new skills and learning that they can have control over their environment. This class will help you teach your dog to blossom. **First night of class is WITHOUT dogs.**

### Option #6: Intermediate Dog Obedience—Chow Hound Standale—Tuesday 6:30pm-7:30pm

In this class you'll expand on your dog's skills so that he can visit the public places showing his good manners. You will work towards passing the AKC's Canine Good Citizen evaluation. Canine Good Citizen is often a pre-requisite to becoming a therapy dog and is a must for anyone interested in activities with your dog. **This class is 6 consecutive weeks and must have 2-5 dogs to hold a session.**

For more information please visit [www.hswestmi.org](http://www.hswestmi.org) or contact our Behavior Department at [obedienceclass@hswestmi.org](mailto:obedienceclass@hswestmi.org) or call 616-453-8900.

**Please Note:** Owners are required to send proof of vaccinations for **Distemper, Bordatella & Rabies** with their registration form. A current Titer test is also acceptable. **Places in class can only be held if both payment and proof of vaccinations are received.**

**Important:** For the protection of your pet and others do not bring your dog to class if he has recently been sick (coughing, vomiting, diarrhea, mange, etc.). This is also true for female dogs in heat. Please leave the dogs at home, but you are encouraged to attend class so you can have the information to practice during the week. Children and young adults are welcome, but must be accompanied by an adult.

**Please mail your check, payable to "Humane Society of West Michigan," with this signed form to:  
Humane Society of West Michigan, 3077 Wilson NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49534**

*In consideration of my enrollment in Humane Society of West Michigan classes, I hereby agree to assume any and all liability for any real or personal loss or injury, property damage, or injury or damage to any dog, person, or property, which may be caused by the dog I bring to class. I further agree to assume any and all liability and hold harmless the instructors of the program and its landlords or sponsors from any such occurrence or liability. I further state that my dog is properly vaccinated.*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_