

# PET CONTAINMENT SYSTEM

**PetSafe**<sup>®</sup>  
TRAINING SYSTEMS

*Deluxe Operations Manual*



**How the system works**

The Pet Containment System consists of three primary components: **FENCE TRANSMITTER**, **RECEIVER**, and **BOUNDARY WIRE** (antenna).

**Fence Transmitter**

The Deluxe Fence Transmitter has been designed to operate with a boundary wire up to 4000 feet or 25 acres, and plugs into any standard outlet. The transmitter produces a very low frequency radio signal. The magnetic field it generates is carried by the boundary wire which serves as an antenna. The range or width of the magnetic field (i.e. the distance from the boundary wire to activate the receiver) can be adjusted from a few feet up to thirty feet by the boundary width control knob located on the transmitter.

**Receiver with Collar**

The Receiver contains electronics to detect the magnetic field carried by the containment boundary wire, translates them, and delivers an electrical correction. The electrical correction is delivered through two contact probes that touch the dog's neck.



**Range Switch**  
Setting "B" is used for most yards.

There are two sets of contact probes that can be used on your receiver.

The longer probes should be used on dogs with long hair.

The Receiver is enclosed in a waterproof case and is mounted on a polypropylene collar. The collar will fit a dog with a neck size varying from 9 to 22 inches.

The Receiver contains a LED indicator light. The light acts as a low battery light and confirms which one of five correction levels are set.

**Contact Probes**      **Correction Level Switch**



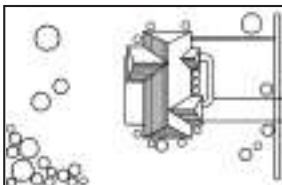
The receiver is equipped with memory backup. After you replace the battery in the receiver, you will not have to reset the correction level. The LED indicator light will flash for the correction level last set.

**Laying out the System**

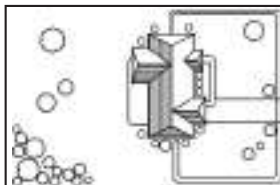
Basic Planning Tips:

- The boundary wire must make a continuous loop back to the transmitter.
- Make a layout that is suitable for your yard. Sample layouts are provided.
- Always round the corners of your boundary with the wire. Sharp corners will distort the signal.

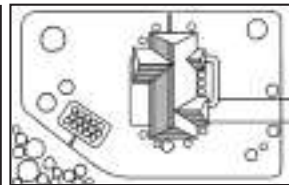
**Sample Layouts:**



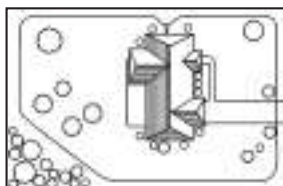
**FRONT BOUNDARY ONLY**



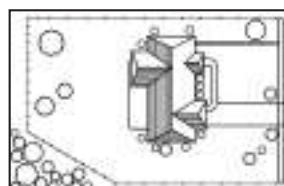
**FENCE FRONT YARD ONLY**



**BASIC LOOP WITH GARDEN**



**FRONT OR BACK ACCESS**



**FRONT BOUNDARY WITH EXISTING FENCE**

- Use a double loop layout to contain your pet on one side of your home. Ref: Fence front yard only below.
- When installing a double loop, the wire must be spaced three to five feet apart to avoid canceling the signal.
- The transmitter will transmit an adjustable signal from approximately two to thirty feet on either side of the boundary wire. Be sure to leave enough area so that your dog can move about freely within the safe area boundaries.

### **Locate the Transmitter**

- Place the transmitter INDOORS ONLY and near an electrical outlet. The transmitter is not waterproof.
- Install the transmitter at least three feet from any large metal objects such as breaker boxes, water heaters, metal garage doors, or washer and/or dryer.
- Secure the transmitter to a stationary surface using the appropriate mounting hardware. A mounting template is located on the back cover of this manual.
- When installing the transmitter make sure the wire twists are not cut off or pinched by a window, door or garage door.
- Install the transmitter only in buildings that meet state and local electrical codes, to prevent fires and electrical hazards.
- If it is necessary to drill a hole make sure there are no electrical wires, nails or screws inside the area you are drilling.

### **Layout the Boundary Wire**

- Lay the wire along your proposed boundary. Connect it to the transmitter.
- Running wire parallel to electrical wires, telephone wires, television cables or antenna, or near satellite dishes will result in signal interference. If you must cross, do so at 90 degree angles.
- Twisting the boundary wires will cancel the signal in a specific area. This will allow your pet to run over this area. Current in the wires must be traveling in the opposite directions to cancel the signal. Make at least ten twists per foot, up to 100 feet maximum, to cancel the signal in the twisted wires.

### **Connecting Wire to the Transmitter**

- Strip the ends of the boundary wire approximately 1/2 inch.
- Connect the boundary wire to the boundary wire terminals.
- Turn the Boundary Width Control to the number 10 setting. This will set the boundary warning zone at the maximum width. The smaller the number setting, the more narrow the boundary warning zone will be.
- Plug the AC power adapter into the power jack on the transmitter and into an electrical outlet.
- The power indicator and loop connection indicator lights should be on.

### **Grounding your Transmitter**

Proper grounding is necessary to reduce the chance of lightning damage to your transmitter. Connect a wire between the transmitter and a ground rod buried at least 3 ft. into the ground. You may use an existing ground rod. Ground rods with clamps and 14 to 18 gauge wire may be obtained at most electrical supply stores. Locate the transmitter as close as possible to the ground rod.

### **Splicing the Wire**

If you need more than 500 feet of wire, splice the wire together with wire nuts or shrink tubing.

*Note the location of all splices on the layout you drew for future reference. Most wire breaks occur near or at the splices.*

Begin by stripping the ends of the wires to be spliced. Insert the stripped ends into the wire nut and twist. Pull on the wires to make sure you have a strong splice connection. Apply waterproofing compound (like silicone caulk) in and around the wire nut. After the compound dries, you may also wrap the wires and the wire nuts with electrical tape to prevent them from pulling loose and to protect from moisture. If your splice or the connection pulls loose, the entire system will fail. Make sure of a secure connection.

### Test the Boundary

- Turn the transmitter on. Being careful to not touch the probes, approach the boundary wire holding the receiver at knee level. If the receiver beeps, the system is ready to be tested. If there is no beep you may have a wire break. See the section, "Locating a Wire Break". Continue to approach the boundary wire with the receiver around the entire layout. The recommended initial distance between the boundary wire and the receiver is five feet, and can be adjusted on the transmitter.
- Verify where your pet is safe within the boundary. No beeps will occur in the safe areas or over any twisted wires.
- Refer to the "LED Function and Response" chart to verify that the receiver is in the "beep only" mode. The receiver is pre-set to the "beep only" mode at the factory.

### Burying the Wire

- Cut a trench one to three inches deep along your previously planned boundary. Burying the wire is recommended to prevent damage to the wire or transmitter, and to avoid possible injuries from tripping over the exposed wire.
- Be sure to maintain some slack in the wire. The wire will expand and contract with temperature variations.
- Use a blunt tool like a wooden paint stick to push the wire into the trench. Be careful not to damage the wire.

### Crossing hard surfaces:

- Lay the wire in a convenient expansion joint or use a circular saw with a masonry blade to create a groove.
- Place the wire in the groove and cover with an appropriate patching compound. Your local hardware store can help you choose the right compound for your surface. For best results, brush away dirt or other debris before caulking.



### Set the Boundary Width

To set the boundary for your yard, turn the Boundary Width Control to set the warning zone at a width that is best for you and your pet. It is recommended that you set the warning zone width at least five feet from the boundary wire. It is important to balance the need for a large warning zone versus your pet's need for a "safe zone" that allows enough freedom of movement. Note that the Boundary Width Control is NOT a correction strength control. The correction level is set on the receiver. Refer to the "Receiver LED Function & Response" chart to set the correction level.

To establish where the warning zone begins, make sure the batteries are in the receiver and walk toward the boundary wire. Stop when the beeping begins, and place a boundary flag in the ground. The receiver is pre-set to the "beep only" mode to prevent an accidental correction.

The Range Switch on the side of the transmitter should be in position "B". Setting "B" is used for most yards.

If the warning zone width is less than five feet from the boundary wire, when set to "10" on the Boundary Width Control, you may need to change the Range Switch.

Try position "C", then position "A" of the Range Switch to determine which one offers the maximum warning zone width.

Adjust boundary width to allow an adequate "safe zone" for your pet.

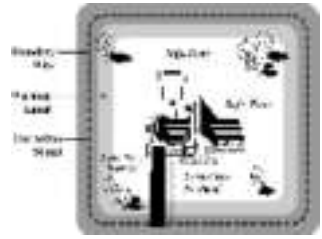
Place the flags approximately ten feet apart. The flags are a temporary visual aid for you and your pet during the training process. The flags can be removed when your pet has become familiar with the location of the boundary.

Once the boundary is set, the receiver correction level must be set.

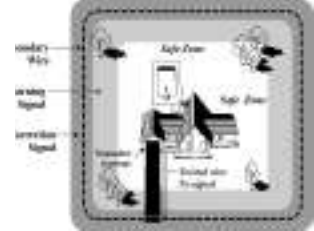
### Testing the System

#### Changing the Correction Level-

The correction levels change incrementally from the current level and revert back to 1 from 5. Refer to the Receiver LED Function and Response table to choose the correction level that best fits your pet. Remove the switch cover with a small coin. With battery installed, press the small button on the back of the receiver until the LED lights and release. The LED will then flash to show the current correction level. To change to the next level, push the button in again once the last flash has been displayed. Please note that the button must be pressed within 5 seconds from the last flash to change to the next level. After setting the correction level, replace the switch cover to protect the switch from the outside environment.



Larger Safe Zone  
Smaller Warning Zone



Smaller Safe Zone  
Larger Warning Zone



### Receiver LED Function and Response

Receiver LED Function	Correction	LED Indicator Light Response	Size of Dog
Correction Level 1	No Correction, Beep Only	1 Flash	Training Only
Correction Level 2	Low Correction	2 Flashes	Less than 20lbs
Correction Level 3	Medium Correction	3 Flashes	20lbs - 50lbs
Correction Level 4	Medium High Correction	4 Flashes	Greater than 50lbs
Correction Level 5	High Correction	5 Flashes	Hard to Train Pets
Low Battery		Flashes every 4-5 seconds	

### Testing the receiver-

Attach the test light to the probes according to the picture. Once the correction level has been set, must be level 2 or higher, place the test light on the receiver. Walk toward the boundary wire until the test light begins to flash. This will indicate that the receiver and the system are working properly. Remove the test light.

If the test light did not flash, refer to Tips from our Experts to determine why your unit did not function properly.

When placing the receiver on your dog's neck, make sure it is positioned so the probes have direct contact with the skin. Thick fur may prevent direct contact and longer probes should be used.



Test Light on Receiver Probes

Call customer support at 1-800-732-2677 to purchase long probes, if not provided.

The collar is properly positioned and adjusted when you are able to get one fingertip between the probe and the pet's skin.

**CAUTION:** Leaving the collar on too tight and for long periods of time can cause Pressure Necrosis. This is the condition where the skin deteriorates over time. To prevent this, check and clean your pet's neck regularly. If a rash or sore forms, remove the receiver for a few days. When replacing the collar, make sure both the probes and the pet's neck are clean.

### **Tips from our Experts**

#### **Receiver Tips**

*Receiver does not respond when approaching the boundary wire*

- Are both indicator lights lit on the transmitter?
- Check and/or replace battery in the receiver.
- Use Test Light to verify receiver is activated.

*Pet does not seem to be getting a correction*

- Check that collar is tight enough and that probes are touching pet's neck
- Shave pet's fur where probes come in contact with the neck
- Longer probes may be needed to consistently contact the pet's skin. (Contact customer service to purchase if not included in your kit.)

*Pet ignores correction and runs through boundary*

- Check battery. Weak batteries can weaken the correction.
- Increase boundary width with boundary width control knob
- Repeat training steps to reinforce training with your pet

#### *Interference*

Should you notice that when testing your receiver that the boundary range is different from one section of wire to the next, then there may be interference from:

- A metal object near the transmitter or boundary wire. Remove object or relocate transmitter or wire.
- A similar fence system. Contact Customer Service to exchange your system for one that operates at a different radio frequency.

#### *Points to remember*

- The correction will get your pet's attention, but will not harm him. The static correction is similar to what you feel when you have walked across carpeting and touch something metal or electronic. It is designed to startle, not to punish.
- Multiple dogs can be contained within the Radio Fence. Each one must be wearing a receiver.
- Test the receiver every three to six months. Battery life depends upon how often your pet tests the boundary.

#### **Transmitter Tips**

##### *Troubleshooting*

- If both power and loop indicator lights are on, then the problem is not the transmitter.
- If the power indicator light is on and the loop indicator light is off, see the "Short Loop Test" information to determine if transmitter is functioning properly.
- If transmitter checks out okay, then you may have a break in your boundary wire. See "How to Locate a Break in the Wire".
- If both the power and loop indicator lights are off, then no power is reaching the unit.

##### *Additional information*

- The transmitter is not waterproof, and must be installed in a dry location.
- The reason that the wire is buried is so that it is not accidentally tripped over or cut. Use care when using a weed eater near the wire boundary to prevent damage to the wire.
- This system should only be used with healthy pets. Contact your veterinarian if you have concerns.
- This system is not for vicious or aggressive pets. If your pet may pose a threat to others, **DO NOT USE THIS SYSTEM.**
- The Radio Fence is for residential use only.



**One Fingertip Between  
Probe and Pet's Neck**

### **Short Loop Test**

The Short Loop Test determines if the transmitter is functioning properly.

- Perform a short loop test by disconnecting the boundary wire.
- Once completed, cut approximately 10 feet of boundary wire and connect it to the Boundary Wire Terminals.
- Spread the wire out so that it makes a circle.
- Turn the Boundary Width Control full clockwise (all the way to the right to setting 10). If the Loop Indicator Light did not come “On,” then your transmitter may not be functioning properly.
- Disconnect one end of the circle from the Boundary Wire Terminal. If the loop indicator light was on and did not go off, refer to the Warranty Repair section.
- If the fence transmitter is functioning properly when you go through the above steps, but the Loop Indicator Light still does not come “On” when you reconnect the boundary wires, then you have a break in your wire.

### **Locating the Break in the Wire**

*Please follow these steps in determining where you may have a break in your boundary wire:*

1. Check your layout for the location of the splices and verify they have a good, solid connection.
2. Check your yard to determine any possible damage to the boundary wire.

*If you still cannot find the break in the boundary wire, there are two options for locating it:*

1. Call Customer Service at 1-800-732-2677 and request to purchase a “Wire Break Locator” to narrow down the location of the break in the boundary wire.

– OR –

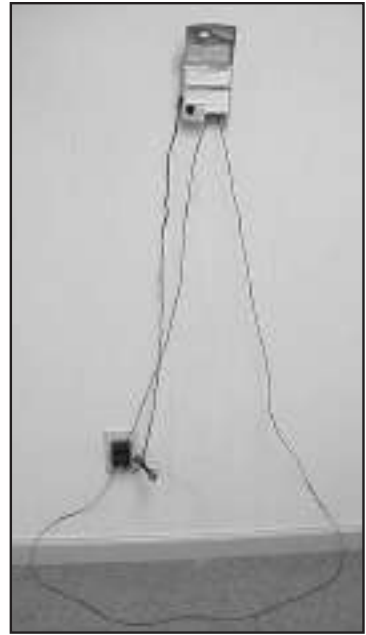
Follow the procedure below:

- A.) Connect both ends of your twisted boundary wire to the first Boundary Terminal located on your transmitter.
- B.) Measure and cut a new piece of wire that is half of the length of your boundary.
- C.) Locate the halfway point of your boundary, and cut the boundary wire.
- D.) Connect one end of the new wire to the second Boundary Terminal located on the fence transmitter.
- E.) With the other end of the new wire, connect it to either side of your boundary wire, where you cut it in half.
- F.) Plug in your AC adapter and check the Loop Indicator Light. If the light is “On,” test the system with the receiver collar. You can assume the break is in the other half of the boundary.
- G.) If the indicator light did not come “On,” you may assume there is a break in this portion of the boundary. As a result of there being a small chance of having more than one break in your system, you should repeat Steps E and F for the other half of the boundary. Unplug the AC adapter.
- H.) You can narrow down where the break is by repeating Steps C-G. Remember when you cut another section of wire, you must splice the first cut you made and seal it with silicone. The numbers of times you repeat these steps depends on how much wire you are willing to replace.
- I.) Replace the damaged wire with new wire. Note: Remember to use only Pet Containment System wire. Plug in the AC adapter.
- J.) Check the Loop Indicator Light. If the light is “On,” test the system with the receiver collar.

### **Repair Procedure**

Send your product with a brief description back to the address below complete with a legible return address. No prior authorization is needed. We recommend you ship your return via a carrier that offers tracking capabilities. You must pay the shipping or freight charges to us. We will then pay the freight charges back to you.

Your product will be replaced or repaired immediately and shipped back to you. There is a nominal labor charge for out of warranty products but all parts are free during the warranty period. If you have had your system for more than one year, call the customer service at 1-800-732-2677 to determine the labor charge.



**10' Circle of Boundary Wire**

Ship to the following warehouse:  
Radio Systems Corporation  
Service Warehouse  
10427 Electric Avenue  
Knoxville, TN 37932

It is important that you remove the collar, probes and batteries from the receiver before shipping it.

### **Caution!**

The danger of explosion exists if the battery is replaced incorrectly. Use only the same or equivalent battery as described in this manual. Take dead batteries to a household hazardous waste collection program in your area or give to a licensed hazardous waste contractor.

### **Next Step: Training**

Proper training of your pet is essential to the success of the Pet Containment System. Read the following Training Manual completely before beginning to work with your pet using the Pet Containment System. Remember that the Pet Containment System is not a solid barrier.

Radio Systems Corporation shall not be liable for any property damage, economic loss, or any consequential damages sustained as a result of an animal crossing the boundary.

## **Training Section**

### **ORIENTATION**

Thank you for choosing **Radio Systems Product** to contain your pet. We are honored that you chose us for your purchase. We take pride in giving our customers the highest quality service on the market. As you go through this training process with your pet, if there is something that is unclear, please let us know so we can help you. Now, let's get started.

During the training process it is **VERY IMPORTANT** that you **DO NOT** let your pet run free *with or without* wearing the receiver. If you do, it may confuse him. To facilitate the conditioning process, keep him on a leash during the first week. But, **DO NOT** walk your pet over the boundary line with the leash. This may confuse him in the beginning. Eventually, you will be able to take him with you over the boundary with the leash. But for now, if he needs to leave the yard, place him in the car, or carry him well over to the other side of the signal field. Remove his collar before taking him from the yard by either of these options, or he will get corrected as he leaves.

To allow your pet to become accustomed to the probes on his neck remove the receiver after each training session during the first week. After that, remove the receiver each night. Eventually he will be able to wear the receiver all the time, but it will take time for his skin to develop a tolerance to the probes. Clean the probes and the dogs neck with alcohol weekly.

The training flags are there for two reasons. First, to give your pet a temporary visual boundary and secondly to help you with the training. The flags are installed where the warning beep starts. All of the flags will remain in the yard for about two weeks. Then they will be slowly removed until they are all out.

Remember, training should be fun, fair, firm, and consistent. Make each session short and upbeat. Many dogs have extremely short attention spans, so don't get discouraged. He will eventually learn.

### **PHASE-1      DAY 1      DAY 2      DAY 3**

Place a leash on your pet using a flat collar or a slip collar, do not place the leash on the receiver collar. Prior to placing the receiver collar on your pet, turn the transmitter off so your pet will not experience a correction. Your pet needs to first be taught how to respond to the flags. Walk your pet within the safe area of the yard and calmly praise and talk to him. Now, proceed toward the training flags. Before your pet's head reaches the flags, give your pet a quick horizontal or downward "jerk and release" correction on the leash. Pull your pet back about 15 feet into the safe area and praise him. ("*Good Rover, you are so smart ... Let's go.*") The "jerk and release" is the only negative reinforcement your pet needs.

**There is no verbal correction needed.** You should tailor the corrections to your pet's personality, temperament, size and breed.

**Each training session should only last about 10 to 15 minutes.** Enter the boundary at various places and focus on areas that the family typically would leave the yard (i.e., drives ways, sidewalks,

etc...). Soon you should see your pet begin to avoid the flags. This shows he is learning. Make sure you play with your pet in the safe area of the yard to show him that time spent in the yard is a pleasant experience. This will prevent your pet from becoming timid or tentative about going outside.

Remember, keep him on a leash, even to go out to take his biological breaks.

**Note:** Some dogs are able to assimilate this information quicker than others. Before proceeding to PHASE 2, be sure your dog is happy to run and play in the yard, generally avoiding the flags. If not, spend an extra day or two on **PHASE 1**.

#### **PHASE-2            DAY 4 \_\_\_\_\_ DAY 5 \_\_\_\_\_ DAY 6 \_\_\_\_\_**

During **PHASE 2** your pet is still on the leash. Turn the transmitter on. Your pet can now experience the correction of the system. Walk your pet within the safe area of the yard and calmly praise and talk to him. Allow your pet to proceed toward the training flags. When your pet enters the signal field, he will experience an uncomfortable, but harmless, static correction. Since this correction will startle him, he may jump and/or yelp. This is normal. Make sure when this happens you quickly pull your dog back into the safe area of the yard. The entire time you will need to have a smile on your face and praise him warmly (“*Terrific Rover, that was so smart of you to come back into the safe area*”). Play in the safe area and do not allow your pet to run back to the house. Never pull or call your pet into the signal field. Let him decide to enter the field or stay within the safe area.

You will need to begin to incorporate set-ups in your training sessions. A set-up is a situation that would normally tempt your pet to leave the yard, such as a family member crossing the boundary, or another pet outside the boundary. These will teach your pet that he needs to pay attention to his whereabouts, regardless of the situation. Until now, the training has not been tested under conditions where your pet has a heightened level of desire. You may begin this training by having a family member walk out of the safe area. Your pet should still be on a leash and wearing his receiver/collar around his neck. **Remember, do not call your pet out of the boundary!** (You may talk to him, but do not say...“*Rover Come!*”) If your pet refuses to follow the family member, praise him warmly. **HE IS LEARNING!** If your pet decides to follow the family member, allow him to enter the signal field and receive a correction. Again, your pet may respond by jumping and/or yelping. Quickly move him back into the safe area of the yard while smiling and praising on the way. Repeat the process with other set-ups such as other pets, a ball, a stick, etc... in various places around the yard. Use something that really excites your pet. This process will cause your pet to make a choice and it is a critical point in his learning process.

If your pet is not responding when he enters the signal field, it is usually due to the collar being too loose. If the collar is fitting properly and your pet does not respond when he enters the signal field, this usually means the correction level is too low. See your owner’s manual on how to adjust the correction level.

*Before proceeding to **PHASE 3**, be sure your pet is happy to run and play in the safe area of the yard and is avoiding the flags, if not, spend an extra day or two on **PHASE 2**.*

#### **PHASE-3            DAY 7 \_\_\_\_\_ DAY 8 \_\_\_\_\_ DAY 9 \_\_\_\_\_ DAY 10 \_\_\_\_\_ DAY 11 \_\_\_\_\_ DAY 12 \_\_\_\_\_**

If your pet has successfully completed PHASES 1 & 2, your pet is now ready to be off the leash while you are constantly supervising him. **DO NOT** leave your pet unattended during this Phase. It is not uncommon for your pet to associate the training to his leash, or to the trainer, and he may leave the yard when those conditions change. If that happens, go get your pet and remove the receiver/collar and return to the yard. (Many times the pet will run back into the safe area by himself.) If you are unable to retrieve him immediately, turn the transmitter off so he can return without receiving a correction. If your pet leaves a second time, see your owners manual for Tips from the Experts.

After six days of constantly supervising your pet while off the leash, you can begin to leave him unattended for short periods of time. Gradually, over the next three weeks, begin building up the time your pet is unattended.

**NOTE: SOME PETS WILL WANT TO STAY NEAR THE HOUSE OR MAY BE HESITANT TO GO OUTSIDE. IT MAY TAKE A FEW DAYS BEFORE YOUR PET IS CONFIDENT TO DO SO. TAKE YOUR PET TO THE SAFE AREA AND GIVE HIM HIS FAVORITE TREATS, PLAY WITH HIM, AND GIVE HIM LOTS OF PRAISE TO SHOW THAT IT IS SAFE TO BE OUTSIDE.**

## **TRAINING A SCARED DOG**

If a dog becomes scared after receiving a correction and will not come out of his safe place (off the porch; out of the house, etc.), Petsafe Training Systems suggests the following:

- When the dog is acting fearful the owner should not try to “comfort it” or “reassure it”, in other words, the owners should not reward the wrong behavior.
- The owner should allow the dog to wear the receiver in the house to get the dog used to wearing the receiver in a situation that where it has not been corrected before. Be sure to praise the dog for wearing the collar and “acting outgoing”.
- Before taking the dog out into the yard, place the collar on the dog while in the house. Place another collar attached to a leash on the dog as well.
- If needed, lightly pull dog into the yard.
- If the dog resists in the yard do “light pull” in the yard.
- Once the dog is moving in the yard redirect to obedience.

## **FINALLY**

Two weeks after your pet can safely be left outside unattended, you may begin removing the training flags. Pull every other flag each day until all of the flags are removed. Once the flags are gone you can (if you need to) teach your pet how to safely walk over the boundary. Remove the receiver/collar and place him on a leash using a flat or slip collar. Encourage your pet to follow you by reassuring him and praising him. Most pets will be reluctant, but you must be persistent. **DO NOT** allow your pet to “bolt” through the signal field. Teach him it is safe to cross with you while he is on a leash. Use a release word like “Okay Rover, walk; break; or it’s okay...Good Dog.” Be consistent and exit in the same area each time. Eventually your pet will associate the leash with leaving safely.

*Thank You for the Opportunity to Serve You.*