

Suffield Veterinary Hospital September 2015 Patient of the Month

Meet Zoey, a spayed female pit bull terrier, about one year old, owned by David Cristelli. This adorable photo was taken by Lorilee Photography of Enfield.

David says: "Zoey was abandoned in a neighborhood in East Windsor. Some residents (and Animal Control) tried to catch her but she was too skittish and wouldn't get close. They put some food out for her so she ate well, but had a lot of ticks. She also had a collar on that was much too tight — I think she may have grown into it. Eventually, Zoey wandered into a man's kitchen when he left his door open one evening. He turned around and she was just sitting there, so he contacted animal control. East Windsor Animal Control advertised to try to find her owners or to find her a home.



I had been looking for a rescue dog. There are so many dogs that need homes, I just can't see passing them over for a specific breed or just to get a puppy. My friend sent me the ad for her and I was very interested. I set up an appointment to meet her and at that time she was very timid, but when I walked in she came right over to me and rolled on her back. To this day she's a glutton for belly rubs! I spent some time with her and she was so sweet I just had to adopt her. I picked her up a couple days later once the shelter had her initial checkup and tests done to be sure she was healthy.

Zoey had some fear issues from her whole ordeal, but over time we've worked on them and she's now a very well balanced dog. She's really in her element at the dog park! She has made lots of friends — she loves to wrestle and play chase, but she is quick to submit if a more aggressive dog gets a little dominant. I don't think she has a mean bone in her body. She loves people and is good with kids too.

Zoey is very smart, but is still learning some commands. Like a lot of pit bulls, she's always laying in weird, twisted up positions. She's also very vocal, with loud yawns and expressive whines when she wants something.

I really couldn't have asked for a better dog. She has made my life so much more fun, and nothing is better than coming home to a wiggly, excited 'pibble'. I really can't understand why anyone would abandon her, but I'm so thankful that she's now in my life."

Side note: I found out later that she has lyme disease. It's not a big deal but I can't help but think it could have been avoided if her previous owners had surrendered her to a shelter instead of just abandoning her on the side of the road.

Suffield Veterinary Hospital is proud to choose Zoey as our September Patient of the Month because she is a very sweet and loving dog, and she serves as a wonderful reminder that not all pit bulls are scary!

Suffield Veterinary Hospital

Dr. Ann Huntington ❖ Dr. Anita Sabellico ❖ Dr. Dawn Burke
❖ Dr. Griffin O'Connor ❖ Dr. Christine Mullen ❖ Dr. Daniel Rothbart
577 East Street South (Route 159), Suffield, CT 06078 (860) 668-4041
View all of our Patients of the Month on our web site, www.suffieldvet.com