



NEWS RELEASE

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Dog Safety is Important Topic at Annual Convention of 'Animal Waste Specialists'

ORLANDO, Florida, February 1, 2006 – When your job is entering people's yards and cleaning up after their dogs, your safety depends on vigilance if the dogs are present, says the founder of the nation's largest poop-scooping company. He will speak at the annual convention of the Association of Professional Animal Waste Specialists (APAWS) here February 11.

Matt "Red" Boswell, CEO (chief excrement officer) of Pet Butler, will offer safety tips to his fellow poop-scoopers, who will gather at the Holiday Inn International Drive Resort Hotel February 10-12. Having been bitten just twice in six and a half years of active poop-scooping, Boswell says, he has worked hard to stay safe.

"Dogs are smarter than we often give them credit for," Boswell says. "You always want to keep them in front of you or within your peripheral vision. Most bites happen when you turn your back to them."

Boswell says only a tiny fraction of dogs – maybe two or three percent – cause concern, but that poop scoopers must always be on guard. If they do find themselves trapped by a dog, he says, they should turn sideways and look down as they move slowly to leave the yard. Dogs interpret that as submission, and feel less threatened, he says.

In the APAWS convention's zaniest event, impolitely called the "Turd Herding Contest," poop scoopers will compete to see who can clean a yard-sized area the most quickly and completely. Boswell is the defending champion from 2005.

For the contest, cut-up pieces of potato represent dog droppings, and each competitor must do the best job he or she can at picking up all they can in the shortest time.

Boswell's Pet Butler organization has just launched two franchised operations in Florida, in Jacksonville and the Panhandle, and is soon opening a third, in Sarasota. It has a total of 18 franchises around the country. For more information about APAWS, visit www.apaws.org. For more information about Pet Butler, visit www.petbutler.com or call 800-738-2885.