



CENTER FOR  
**Shelter Dogs**

A PROGRAM OF THE ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON

## **TERRITORIAL BEHAVIOR**

Your new dog has shown territorial behavior (watch dog behavior) while in the shelter or in the previous home. Dogs who show territorial behavior may growl and bark when defending their homes and family from strangers. If not controlled, some of these dogs may bite. Most dogs that show territorial behavior are very friendly to family members.

If the following guidelines are followed you will be able to safely control your dog and have a happy and long-lasting relationship with your new dog.

- Keep your dog within a reliable conventional (not invisible) fence while on your property.
- Supervise your dog when outside. When supervising, you should be able to see your dog at all times.
- If your dog begins to bark, immediately call into the house.
- Keep your dog leashed at all times when off of your property.
- Let your dog see that you clearly welcome your visitors (shake hands). Have all visitors toss or feed your dog **DELICIOUS** treats.
- Enroll your dog in a humane dog obedience class.