



## WELLNESS PROGRAMS

Fitter Critters<sup>SM</sup> is dedicated to the well-being of your animal companion through educational programs!



Canine Massage Courses for owners.



## ABOUT FITTER CRITTERS

95 Summer Street  
Lee MA, 01238  
413-243-0253

Fitter Critters was developed by Jody Chiquoine, a healthcare professional, who recognized the need for companion animal support fol-

lowing illness, injury or surgery. The areas of animal physical rehabilitation, & swimming (hydrotherapy) are relatively new in the United States and there are few treatment centers. Jody has successfully completed the basic science course for animal physical therapists (canine and equine) provided in collaboration with physical therapists and veterinarians and sponsored by the American Physical Therapy Association, Orthopedic Division. Additionally, she has a certificate in canine massage. She has attended courses regarding canine rehabilitation, hydrotherapy and canine hospice, including the certificate program for canine physical rehabilitation with the University of Tennessee Veterinary School. Jody has attended and assisted with Tellington Touch workshops and positive reinforcement dog obedience training classes. Fitter Critters is fully bonded and insured. The Fitter Critter consultant staff includes a physiatrist (rehabilitation medical doctor) physical therapists and a certified massage therapist/chinese herbalist. Jody has been a registered nurse for 30 years, & holds a Masters Degree in nursing as a Family Nurse Practitioner. She has extensive clinical experience in rehabilitation, surgery, cancer care and geriatrics and draws on this experience to work with companion animals. Active in animal rescue efforts and sharing her entire life with animals, Jody brings a myriad of caring experiences to her practice. She works closely with area veterinarians and other practitioners to offer you and your companion animal both kind and competent care.

## FITTER CRITTERS<sup>SM</sup>

### A NEW GATEWAY TO CANINE HEALTH

- ♥Canine Physical Rehabilitation
- ♥Indoor Swimming Programs AquaPaws<sup>SM</sup>
- ♥Conditioning for Pets & Working Dogs
- ♥Wellness Programs

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Owned by:

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Canine Rehabilitation Practitioner  
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Hop-a-long hikers, outings for recuperating dogs.



**WELCOME**  
**OPEN NEW DOORS**  
**TO YOUR DOGS' HEALTH**

Fitter Critters<sup>SM</sup> is dedicated to providing physical rehabilitation & indoor swimming programs for dogs. Reasonably priced programs are created with the intention of bringing each dog to their highest functional level for as long as possible.



**AVAILABLE SERVICES**

Physical Rehabilitation, with emphasis on strengthening and improving overall physical function.

Indoor Swimming Programs Aquapaws<sup>SM</sup>

designed for your canine friend. Individualized care is provided in the comfort of an indoor heated fitness pool especially created for canine use.

Conditioning for Pets & Working Dogs by providing exercises appropriate for your pet or endurance & agility exercises for working dogs.

Wellness, programs to provide group educational programs for you & your pet.

**REHABILITATION TREATMENT**

Fitter Critters<sup>SM</sup> provides comprehensive physical rehabilitation programs designed specifically for your animal companion. Rehabilitation is a process of treatment and education which helps to improve function, enhance recovery time and reduce complications following surgery, injury or debilitating medical illness.

The owner of Fitter Critters is specifically trained in animal physical rehabilitation and massage. Gentle stretching exercises, massage, range of motion exercises, and many other modalities are offered at our canine rehabilitation center.



**Rehabilitation is helpful when used with:**

- Orthopedic surgery
- Spinal Cord Surgery
- Neurologic Conditions
- Arthritis
- Preoperative Conditioning
- Accidents
- Cancer
- Bladder & Bowel Incontinence
- Sight & hearing Impairments

\* Veterinarian evaluation is required prior to initiating a comprehensive rehabilitation program



Wheeled cart measurements with gait retraining is provided.

**CONDITIONING FOR**  
**PETS, SPORTING & WORKING DOGS**

Fitter Critters<sup>SM</sup> can help you design the right home exercise program whether



getting your pet fit...

or  
 training  
 the canine athlete



injury prevention is a primary focus

**INDOOR SWIMMING PROGRAMS - AQUAPAWS<sup>SM</sup>**

Fitter Critters<sup>SM</sup> offers canine swimming (hydrotherapy) programs in the comfort of our heated indoor canine fitness jet pool. In general, swimming helps to reduce limb edema (swelling) and improves: range of motion, balance, general fitness, stamina, muscle tone, lung capacity and cardiovascular function.



Hydrotherapy is an excellent form of exercise that allows muscles, tendons and ligaments to move in a weightless environment without placing stress on bones and joints.



**Hydrotherapy is helpful with:**

- Hip dysplasia
- Arthritis
- Most postsurgical procedures
- Traumatic Accidents
- Sport Injuries
- Weight Problems
- Knee Surgery
- Spinal Problems
- Fractures
- Elbow problems
- Neurological Problems
- Senior Conditioning

\*veterinarian approval is required prior to initiating most hydrotherapy programs.