

PROTECTING YOUR POOCH

BARK BARS CONDITION DOG'S PAWS

HERB GARBUTT

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When Britt Wight's dog's nose and paws were dry and cracking, she wondered if there was something that could be done to help out.

Wight and friends Shawna Gee, Dana Thomson and Lesley Mills had started a hobby business producing natural soaps and lotions. The only problem was they were cocoa-based, which is toxic to dogs.

So the friends went to work and came up with a new formula, using shea butter, coconut oil and beeswax to create a paw lotion bar.

"The initial results with Britt's boxer were great," Gee said. "She was shocked, it did such an amazing job."

The bars conditions and protects dog's noses and paws, but is still safe if the dog licks it.

Although it was originally meant to be a sideline to their original business, through word of mouth, the dog paw bars have become so popular, they have taken over as the primary business.

To apply it, you warm the paw-shaped bars in your hands and then rub it on the dog's paws.

They have added Bark Butter, which is softer, more like a cream.

"Not all dogs like to wear booties, so they are good use, especially with winter coming," Gee said. "They are good to use when they are walking through

BARK BARS

Description:

Bars made of shea butter, coconut oil and beeswax help condition dogs' noses and paws. They sell for \$15 a tin or \$24 a jar.

Contact:

www.barkbars.ca/

salt and sand."

All the bars are hand-made in small batches. The bars are \$15 for a tin of four and the Bark Butter is \$24 for a jar.

They are available at Pet Valu and Pampered Pooch in Georgetown, Farm to Paw Boutique and Market in Acton and Guelph and Nice Diggz in Etobicoke. Home delivery is also available for orders of \$30 or more and porch pickup is another option.

Orders can also be shipped across Canada and the United States.



Herb Garbutt /Metroland

Shawna Gee (left) and Britt Wight, with Tonka, are part of the team behind Bark Bars, a conditioner for dogs' paws and noses.



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