

## What is an Assistance Dog?

An assistance dog has been trained to help a person with a disability lead a more independent life.

- **Service Dogs** act as the arms of a person with a mobility-related disability
- **Guide Dogs** lead people who are blind or visually impaired around obstacles and stop at elevation changes
- **Hearing Dogs** alert people who are deaf or hearing impaired to important sounds

There are also:

- **Social/Therapy Dogs** who visit nursing homes, schools, and hospitals to provide love and attention to many people



## American Poodles At Work

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[www.AmericanPoodles  
AtWork.org](http://www.AmericanPoodlesAtWork.org)

# American Poodles At Work



A Not-for-Profit Organization  
Dedicated to the Training and  
Placement of Poodles as  
Assistance Dogs.

Located in Warren, MA

(413) 436-0601

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## Who We Are

**APAW** is a small program which has chosen to specialize in placing Poodles of all sizes as Service and Social/Therapy Dogs.

Our founder, Jillian Gartner, studied under the pioneer of the Service Dog concept, Dr. Bonnie Bergin. Using the findings of on-going research which examines how dogs learn best, **APAW** trains our Poodles to problem-solve, and think their way through any difficult tasks.

**APAW** dogs all learn our basic *ninety (90) commands*, and can be taught additional specialized tasks once a partner is chosen.

Opening doors and turning on lights, **APAW** dogs make a world of difference!

## How You Can Help

- Pet puppies to help socialize them!
- Learn how to train a dog and take them on field-trips!
- Donate your used dog crate, wheelchair or crutches!
- Donate your grooming or veterinary services for puppies in-training, as well as our graduates!
- Breeders can donate a healthy Poodle pup!
- Make a donation to help cover the cost of raising/training these special dogs!

### ***Learn more today:***

[www.AmericanPoodles](http://www.AmericanPoodles)

[AtWork.org](http://AtWork.org)

## Why Use Poodles?

- Poodles are very intelligent and eagerly master the skills for this type of work
- Poodles are one of the retrieving breeds, and naturally deliver any item to hand
- Poodles are considered hypo-allergenic for many people, making them more suitable for those with allergies
- Poodles are very sensitive to their owner's needs, but also have a fun sense of humor
- Poodles can be groomed for any climate, and to suit their owner's preference
- And more...