

# Sunshine Hill Goldens

Gwen Sherman, Breeder  
P.O. Box 582  
Bridgeville, DE 19933  
302-337-9567

[Gwen@SunshineHill.com](mailto:Gwen@SunshineHill.com) [www.SunshineHill.com](http://www.SunshineHill.com)

## FEEDING:

We have been feeding “Verus Life Advantage Chicken Meal, Oats and Brown Rice” formula, fed dry. If your puppy does not want to eat his meal try mixing his/her food with a little warm water and ½ teaspoon of Gerbers Baby Meat **OR** canned evaporated milk. Feed approximately ¼ to ½ cup three times a day. If you should decide to change your puppy’s food to a different quality large breed puppy food we recommend that you purchase a small bag of his/her present food. Feed your puppy the Verus food for approximately 3 or 4 days and then begin introducing the new large breed formula food slowly by mixing in a small amount the first day and increasing the amount of the new food and decreasing the amount of the original food until you have your puppy switched over to the new large breed puppy food. This should take approximately 1 week. Feed your puppy as large a quantity as he will eat, increasing the amount as he grows and decreasing the meat or milk until he eats it plain. By about 12 weeks of age we suggest you cut the feedings back to twice a day. **DO NOT OVER FEED YOUR PUPPY!** Follow the instructions on the bag.

## WATER:

Should be available throughout the day but not when your puppy is confined to a crate. Sometimes they get bored and drink excessively which in turn causes them to urinate frequently. Water should be taken up at least 1 ½ hours before bedtime, this facilitates easier house training.

## EXERCISE:

The first twelve months of a puppy’s life parallel the first twelve years of our life. A one-month-old puppy is the equivalent of a one-year-old child and a five-month-old puppy is akin to a five-year-old child. Therefore, do not exercise your young puppy more than you would his human equivalent.

I believe puppies should have all the self induced exercise they want, i.e., playing ball or investigating the back yard, however, I do not recommend putting them on a lead and giving them a one mile walk to wear them out. You will find that a golden retriever is a breed that is very intent on pleasing, if you ask them to over perform they will but their young body may suffer in the long run.

Be most careful in allowing your dog to play with larger, older dogs. Even the gentlest adult can, in play, “slap down a puppy” and injure the young joints and ligaments. Again, as you would probably not allow a five year old to play football with teenage boys, don’t permit your young golden to be at such a disadvantage.

## BATHING:

I recommend bathing with a good quality shampoo. The number of baths is not important but be sure to rinse your dogs coat completely of shampoo. When you feel you have all the shampoo rinsed from your dogs coat rinse him/her again.

Brush you puppy/dog at least once or twice a week. Trim his/her nails once a week. As an adult, professional grooming every eight weeks will keep the shedding down and maintain good skin health.