

A few tips for planning your own shelter Easter egg hunt



Here are some quick and easy tips from AWLA's Chelsea Lindsey, who dives into how to do your own Easter egg hunt [here](#).

- **Give volunteers a quick reminder of the rules before the event:**

- Dogs need to be on short leashes

- Dogs should be a safe distance from each other

- Volunteers should open the Easter eggs for the dogs, so that they do not ingest the plastic.

- **Consider adapting the Easter egg hunt for other holidays:** Around the winter holidays, consider “wrapping” treats with wrapping paper. Halloween? Plastic pumpkins can be used to hide a treat for a trick or treat. .
- **Don't use a raw diet:** You may think that this would be stinky enough that the dogs could smell it outside, but it wasn't for the dogs at AWLA. Consider using hot dogs or Vienna sausages - just don't leave them out in the eggs for too long!
- **Be flexible:** You'll likely find that a few of the dogs just simply didn't get the game. We quickly decided to let those dogs have a few treats and then take them back inside. There was no point stressing them out for a video if they weren't enjoying the game. We made sure all the kennels were unlocked that morning so that the volunteers could get dogs in and out quickly.
- **Don't be afraid to help the dogs out:** It won't ruin the video. The best part of the video was watching each dog's individual reaction to the game, and some of the funniest and most endearing clips are of our volunteers showing the dogs what to do, step-by-step.
- **Post your video on a day that has high engagement:** A lot of holidays fall on weekends or day off of work, and weekends are typically low-engagement days on social media, so make sure to check out your stats to see whether you might want to post your video a day or two before the holiday.
- **Include your other adoptable animals:** We made catnip eggs for the cats (we didn't close the eggs all the way), but didn't end up having time to record them playing with them. I guarantee people would love to see the cats and maybe even other small animals getting a treat too! Just remember to monitor each animal so they don't ingest plastic.