

## P.O Box 582 | Winfield, IL 60190 | 630-776-8197 asoundbeginningprogram.com

## Is a dog's behavior be affected by an Invisible Fence?

The E-fence can cause aggression and fear issues because what happens is when your dog is in "training" and has no clue of boundaries that can't be seen....being happy and friendly... and then sees someone or another dog, and moves forward just to possibly say hi or be curious as to who or what that is and ZAP ---- the fence gets him!

But what happens in the dog's mind is he associates the PERSON or OTHER DOG for the feeling of pain he's received - - - he has no idea it's the <u>boundary</u> you expect him to understand, and that's NOT a desirable association because the more it happens the more your dog can become aggressive or fearful and if you ever have a power outage, you've got a potential problem.

What also has happened far too often, and these are all too frequent, documented cases presented to behavioral vets, is the dogs become so fearful of the yard itself because of the shocks received that they begin to eliminate in the house because the yard is no longer a pleasant or safe place to be.

## Our position is - The risk is not worth the invisible fence "reward".

For homes without the ability to install a **visible fence** we recommend using a long line or a tie-out. A dog run can also be installed for a reasonable fee.

That gives safety and freedom to run back and forth but without the risks associated with the shock of the E-fence.

**Never use the yard as a baby sitter.** Always monitor your dog when outside, whether on a tie-out or fenced in. IF you choose to keep the E-fence, then we advise you to go out there with your dog and be proactive. So every time your dog alerts to anything new --- a car going by, a child walking to school, a jogger, you will play the WHO IS THAT game to prevent negative associations.

What are the risks to using Invisible Fence inside the home?

Using it to keep a dog from going into a specific room is how it's sold/promoted. However the fallout is that now the dog can't even feel safe in his own home. We recommend the use of baby gates or any kind of physical barrier that the dog can readily see to prevent fear and anxiety.