

# How to Stay in Control and Organized in the Field

*Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff*

Whistles and lanyards are an essential part of every trainer's tool kit. Whistles help you communicate with your dog and provide him direction.

Lanyards allow you to wear your whistles or transmitters around your neck, and can be made from a variety of materials, such as nylon, cotton, or leather. While a lanyard may seem small and insignificant, we've found it to be the same as any other piece of equipment: if it performs well, you won't give it a second thought. However, its failure in the field results creates a major inconvenience. Make sure you obtain a high-quality lanyard that meets all your needs. A basic [nylon lanyard](#) is lightweight and practical. Even water doesn't weight it down while you're wearing it around your neck. Leather lanyards are good choices for those who appreciate a little luxury in the field. As they age, the oils in your skin make it more soft and supple. And nothing beats leather for durability and attractiveness.

The retractable lanyard is the perfect solution for those who prefer not to wear anything heavy (like a transmitter) around their necks. Use this lanyard to secure your remote transmitter, whistle, or any other piece of equipment to your jacket pocket, D-ring, belt, or other piece of clothing. It positions itself out of your way when not in use, and ensures you'll always have your equipment handy when you need it.

*Photo from the book, "Just Labs."*

