

# Beyond the Bowl: Feeding Your Greenstone Labradors

By Stacey Green, Greenstone Labradors

At **Greenstone Labradors**, our goal is to produce dogs that are as a joy to live with as they are beautiful to look at. While the Labrador Retriever is famous for its hunting heritage, we know that most of our dogs spend their days as beloved family members—patrolling the backyard, fetching tennis balls, and curled up at your feet. Whether your dog is destined for the show ring, service work, retrieving ducks or to be your best friend, **quality nutrition is the foundation of a long, healthy life.**

## **Beyond the Backyard**

Even if your Labrador isn't out in the field every weekend, they are naturally active and curious dogs. From a long walk in the park to a vigorous game of fetch, their bodies are constantly working. Providing "optimal nutrition" isn't just for sporting dogs; it's about giving your companion the energy and mental clarity to enjoy every activity to the fullest. By focusing on high-quality nutrients, we ensure they stay fit, focused, and ready for whatever the day brings.

## **Why 30/20 Matters**

While a maintenance food is adequate for a typical pet, I recommend a 30/20 performance diet (30% protein and 20% fat) to truly help a Labrador thrive.

**Metabolic Priming:** Feeding higher levels of fat provides the healthy fatty acids critical for a Labrador's thick, shiny coat and overall skin health. It also "primes" their system to use energy more efficiently.

**Muscle & Vascular Health:** Elevated dietary protein provides the amino acids necessary to maintain strong muscle mass, which is the best way to support and protect their joints as they age.

**Mental Alertness:** A performance food delivers the density of nutrients needed to keep your dog mentally sharp. This helps with everything from basic obedience to learning new tricks at home.