Elephant Aid International was founded in 2010 to foster a paradigm shift in beliefs and approaches to the care and management of elephants.

Our goal is to help facilitate change in how the public relates to elephants and how mahouts and elephant keepers care for and manage elephants.
Elephant Aid International Projects

Mahout and Elephant Training

Elephant Foot Care

Elephant Care Centers
SAURAHA Elephant Foot Care Workshop
May 2010 – Chitwan, Nepal

Elephant Aid International – USA
National Trust Nature Conservancy – Nepal

Program developed by Carol Buckley . 2010 ™
captive elephants require foot care
common causes of foot problems

• lack of exercise
• standing on hard surfaces
• walking on asphalt
• being chained
• low quality diet
• poor hygiene
• lack of foot care
The goal is to maintain healthy nails and pads
you will need a skilled foot trimmer and the proper tools for the job
foot pads should be reasonably thick and have well defined tracks

A healthy pad protects toe bones
overgrown nails and thin pads can lead to foot disease
walking on unnaturally hard & abrasive surfaces can result in thin pads
the pad should have well defined tracks

this pad is thin and too smooth
nails are not designed for weight bearing

nails should be shorter than the pad
this pad and nails are severely overgrown and the heal is bruised
the nails have folded under the foot
nails should be free of cracks
cuticles protect the connective tissue between the nail and the foot

these cuticles are dry and overgrown
cuticles should be short and soft
healthy feet are an indicator of the overall care an elephant receives