

# 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

# **SAURHA Elephant Foot Care Workshop**

**May 2010 – Chitwan, Nepal**

**Elephant Aid International – USA**

**National Trust Nature Conservancy – Nepal**

**Program developed by Carol Buckley . 2010 <sup>TM</sup>**

# 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 heel 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 a indicator of the  
overall care an elephant receives**

