

PAWS RESORT – CANINE COUGH INFORMATION SHEET

WHAT IS CANINE COUGH?

Canine cough is an upper respiratory infection affecting dogs. There are multiple organisms involved, the most common being a bacterium (*Bordetella bronchiseptica*) and several viruses (canine parainfluenza virus, canine coronavirus). It is highly contagious and is spread via the air. Droplets of moisture from a dog's respiratory tract contaminate the environment and another dog breaths the infection in. It is predominant in areas dogs congregate such as dog shows, dog parks, vet clinics and kennels. The virus is passed between dogs.

SYMPTOMS?

The incubation period is anywhere from 2 to 14 days and dogs are contagious prior to cough appearing. Vaccination helps to reduce the spread and or severity of the cough but unfortunately does not prevent all cases of canine cough.

- Dry hacking cough
- Dog may appear to be trying to bring something up/choking
- Runny watery nose/eyes
- Loss of appetite in serious conditions

As all dogs at Paws Resort are vaccinated, any cough experienced tends to be mild. With rest and time the cough will pass on its own, much like a cold with a child at day care. If symptoms persist or your dog becomes lethargic or has a loss of appetite a vet visit is necessary. Ring the vet beforehand so as not to spread the cough at the clinic.

WHAT CAN KENNELS DO?

A professional kennel can take all measures to reduce the chances of your dog getting canine cough and from spread occurring:

At Paws we:

- mandate c5 vaccinations so all boarders have a canine cough vaccine
- Do not allow dogs to play in yards together to reduce chance of spread
- We make all attempts to cap our stays at 4 weeks if possible, so dogs are not away from home in a stimulated environment long term
- Clean and disinfect pens daily
- Do not allow sharing of food, water bowls or toys
- Notify all customers if we are ever made aware that we have had a case of canine cough at our facility
- Notify an owner if their dog is displaying any symptoms of canine cough and isolate any dogs that may be displaying signs

We ask that our customers do not bring their dog to our kennels if they are unwell and that they be aware of the risks if there is an outbreak in the community. Not all dog owners vaccinate for canine cough, and this increases the chance of infection being brought into the kennels.

This pamphlet has been provided for your information and understanding when boarding your dog at our kennels.

Paws Team

