

Canine Influenza

Canine Influenza (H3N8 virus), more commonly known as the dog flu, is a new emerging infectious disease caused by a specific strain of the influenza virus. This specific strain causes respiratory illness in only dogs.

All boarded dogs are at risk

Dog Flu Facts:

- It is highly contagious among dogs.
- It is currently reported in 39 states, including Florida.
- Dogs have no natural immunity to the virus due to that fact that it is relatively new.
- Nearly every dog exposed to the dog flu will become infected.
- 80% of infected dogs will show symptoms.
- Even if a pet does not have symptoms, they can still spread the infection.
- The number one symptom is a persistent cough, ranging from a dry to a moist cough depending on the individual dog.
- Other symptoms include a low-grade fever, runny nose, lack of energy, and loss of appetite.
- While dog flu can be a mild illness, about 20% of those infected will have severe symptoms such as a high fever, pneumonia, and even death.
- Dogs of any breed or age are at risk for the dog flu.
- Dog flu is an airborne but can also be spread from direct contact and contaminated surfaces.
- Dogs become more at risk for the dog flu when they partake in certain activities such as:
 - Adopted from a shelter/rescue center/breeding kennel/pet store
 - Boarding at a facility or doggie day care
 - Attend group training sessions
 - Visit a groomer
 - Play at dog parks or encounter other dogs while on walks
 - Engage with other dogs while at the veterinarian's office or pet supply store
 - Any other activities where dogs associate with other dogs
- Canine Influenza is a virus, not to be confused with Bordetella (Kennel Cough), which is a bacterial infection.

The Canine Influenza Vaccine has been proven to be an effective combatant against the spread and severity of Canine Influenza and is now recommended by the American Veterinary Medical Association. Vaccinating is the only prevention. Initially, the vaccination is administered in two (2) doses. The first dose, followed by a booster 2-4 weeks later, then annually (Cost per dose is \$28.00). (If the second dose is not received within 6 weeks of the first dose, it is recommended that the series be reinstated.)

I accept _____ I decline _____

Last Name _____ Pet's Name _____ Date _____