



WASHOE COUNTY REGIONAL ANIMAL SERVICES

DOG LICENSING APPLICATION

All dogs over four (4) months of age in the congested areas of Washoe County are required to be licensed with Washoe County Regional Animal Services.

Even if you think your pet will never leave home, statistically one in three pets will become lost at some point during their lives. Our Animal Control Officers will make every reasonable effort to return a licensed dog to their owner if the dog is wearing a license tag.



You can apply for a license in one of three ways:

- You can complete the online form at www.washoeanimals.com
- You can complete the form below and send it along with the fees and certificates to:
Washoe County Animal Services at: P.O. Box 11130 Reno, NV 89520
- Or you can come into the Regional Animal Services shelter at:
2825-A Longley Lane, Reno
Monday through Friday from 10am to 5pm

LICENSING FEE'S:	
Unaltered	\$20
Altered (Spay or Neutered)	\$8
Senior Citizen (65 and older)	\$8
Tag Replacement	\$5

All applications require:

- An attached copy of the rabies vaccination certificate for each dog. (Please send copies only as rabies and spay/neuter certificates will not be returned.)
- A check or money order made out to **Washoe County** for the appropriate licensing fee's (above).

Pet Owner Information:

Last Name:	First Name:	Note! If applying as a Senior a DOB is required (M/D/Y)
<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Physical Address:	City:	Zip Code:
<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Home Phone:	Cell Phone:	Work Phone:
<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>
Mailing Address (If different from Physical Address):	E-mail:	
<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>	<input style="width: 90%;" type="text"/>	

Pet Information:

1st Dog's Name: _____ Sex: M F Spayed/Neutered? Y N
 Age or DOB: _____ Color: _____ Dog's Microchip # _____
 *Primary Breed: _____ *Secondary Breed: _____

2nd Dog's Name: _____ Sex: M F Spayed/Neutered? Y N
 Age or DOB: _____ Color: _____ Dog's Microchip # _____
 *Primary Breed: _____ *Secondary Breed: _____

3rd Dog's Name: _____ Sex: M F Spayed/Neutered? Y N
 Age or DOB: _____ Color: _____ Dog's Microchip # _____
 *Primary Breed: _____ *Secondary Breed: _____

* Please do not use the terms "mix" or "terrier."



How to Introduce Your New Pet

From "the leader of the pack" to "the top dog," plenty of simplistic metaphors come from the canine world. But relationships between canines can be pretty complex, beginning with the very first meeting.

Like most animals who live in groups, dogs establish their own social structure, sometimes called a dominance hierarchy. This dominance hierarchy serves to maintain order, reduce conflict and promote cooperation among pack members.



Dogs also establish territories, which they may defend against intruders or rivals. Of course, dogs' social and territorial nature affects their behavior whenever a new dog is introduced to the household.

Choose a neutral location

Introduce the dogs in a neutral location so that your resident dog is less likely to view the newcomer as a territorial intruder. Each dog should be handled by a separate person. With both dogs on leashes, begin the introductions in an area unfamiliar to each, such as a park or a neighbor's yard. If you frequently walk your resident dog in a nearby park, she may view that area as her territory too, so choose a less familiar site. If you are adopting your dog from an animal shelter, you might even bring your resident dog to the local shelter and introduce the two there (some shelters may even require that a new dog meets the resident dog before the adoption is complete).

Use positive reinforcement

From the first meeting, help both dogs experience "good things" when they're in each other's presence. Let them sniff each other briefly, which is normal canine greeting behavior. As they do, talk to them in a happy, friendly tone of voice; never use a threatening tone. (Don't allow them to investigate and sniff each other for too long, however, as this may escalate to an aggressive response.)

After a short time, get the attention of both dogs and give each a treat in return for obeying a simple command, such as "sit" or "stay." Take the dogs for a walk and let them sniff and investigate each other at intervals. Continue with the "happy talk," food rewards, and simple commands.

Be aware of body postures

One body posture that indicates things are going well is a "play-bow." One dog will crouch with her front legs on the ground and her hind end in the air. This is an invitation to play, and a posture that usually elicits friendly behavior from the other dog. Watch carefully for body postures that indicate an aggressive response, including hair standing up on one dog's back, teeth-baring, deep growls, a stiff-legged gait, or a prolonged stare. If you see such postures, interrupt the interaction immediately by calmly getting each dog interested in something else.

For example, both handlers can call their dogs to them, have them sit or lie down, and reward each with a treat. The dogs' interest in the treats should prevent the situation from escalating into aggression. Try letting the dogs interact again, but this time for a shorter time period and/or at a greater distance from each other.

Taking the dogs home

When the dogs seem to be tolerating each other's presence without fearful or aggressive responses, and the investigative greeting behaviors have tapered off, you can take them home. Whether you choose to take them in the same vehicle will depend on their size, how well they ride in the car, how trouble-free the initial introduction has been, and how many dogs are involved.

If you have more than one resident dog in your household, it may be best to introduce the resident dogs to the new dog one at a time. Two or more resident dogs may have a tendency to "gang up" on the newcomer.

It is important to support the dominant dog in your household, even if that turns out to be the newcomer. This may mean, for example, allowing the dominant dog to claim a special toy or favored sleeping spot as his own. Trying to impose your preference for which dog should be dominant can confuse the dogs and create further problems.

Introducing puppies to adult dogs

Puppies usually pester adult dogs unmercifully. Before the age of four months, puppies may not recognize subtle body postures from adult dogs signaling that they've had enough. Well-socialized adult dogs with good temperaments may set limits with puppies with a warning growl or snarl. These behaviors are normal and should be allowed.

Adult dogs who aren't well-socialized, or who have a history of fighting with other dogs, may attempt to set limits with more aggressive behaviors, such as biting, which could harm the puppy. For this reason, a puppy shouldn't be left alone with an adult dog until you're confident the puppy isn't in any danger. Be sure to give the adult dog some quiet time away from the puppy and some extra individual attention as well.

When to get help

If introductions don't go as smoothly as planned, contact a professional animal behaviorist immediately for problem resolution. Dogs can be severely injured in fights, and the longer the problem continues, the harder it can be to resolve. Punishment won't work and could make things worse. Fortunately, most conflicts between dogs in the same family can be resolved with professional guidance.

Adapted from material originally developed by applied animal behaviorists at the Dumb Friends League, Denver, Colorado. All rights reserved.



How to Crate Train your New Dog

Crate training is a method of house training your puppy or dog. The crate is used to keep your dog confined when you are not able to supervise him. Since most dogs will not go to the bathroom in the same place they sleep, your dog will most likely try to hold it when he is confined to his crate. This prevents him from getting in the bad habit of having accidents in your home. Here's how to crate train your dog:

Choose a Crate for Your Dog

There are several different types of crates from which to choose including a wire cage, a plastic pet carrier, and a soft-sided canvas or nylon crate. The wire crate is the most commonly used. It allows your dog to see what is going on around him, and many have an extra panel which allows you to make the crate bigger or smaller depending on the size of your dog. This type of crate is collapsible, and it has a sliding tray in the floor which makes it easy to clean.



The plastic pet carrier is also a good option for crate training. This is the kind you most often see used for airline travel. The drawback to this kind of crate is that it is enclosed on three sides, so it does not let in as much light as a wire crate. It is also a little harder to clean.

The soft-sided crates are a good option for dogs who are not big chewers. These are lightweight, so they are great to carry along when you are traveling with your dog. The problem with the soft-sided crates is that a dog who likes to chew or scratch at the sides will be able to break out. It is not a good choice for young puppies.

Whichever type of crate you choose to use, size is important. The crate should not be too large. You want your dog to have enough room to lie down comfortably and turn around. If the crate is too big, your dog may use one area of the crate to sleep and another spot to eliminate. Many of the wire crates are sold with a divider. This is perfect if you are crate training a growing puppy. The divider allows you to confine your puppy to a small area of the crate, and then make the crate larger as your puppy grows.

Finally, never leave your dog crated for longer than he is physically able to hold his bladder or bowels. You cannot expect the impossible. Puppies can usually hold it for no more than 3-4 hours. An adult dog who has never been house trained should also not be left for longer than 3-4 hours. Older dogs may be able to hold it a little longer. Dogs should not be left crated for more than this length of time without being taken out for exercise, playtime, and time to cuddle with you. →

Introduce Your Dog to the Crate

Crate training should be kept very positive. Introduce your puppy or adult dog to the crate slowly. Put something soft in the bottom of the crate, along with some of your dog's toys. Throw some treats inside. Let your dog explore the crate at his own pace without forcing him to go inside. Praise him and give him a treat when he goes in on his own. Until he seems comfortable with his crate, keep the door open and let your dog wander in and out as he wishes.

Confining Your Dog in the Crate

Once your dog is comfortable going in and out of the crate, it is time to start getting him used to being confined. Throw some treats in the crate, and once your dog is inside, close the door. Wait a minute or so, and as long as your dog is quiet, let him out of the crate. Slowly extend the amount of time you leave your dog in the crate while you are at home until he is comfortable being confined in the crate for up to an hour or more.

Once your dog is comfortable with being confined, begin to get him used to be left alone while in his crate. When he is calm in his crate, step out of the room for a few minutes and then step back in. Gradually build up the amount of time you are out of the room until your dog or puppy is comfortable being left alone in his crate for an hour or more.

The "Don'ts" of Crate Training

There are a few simple rules to keep in mind to make crate training successful. First, never use your dog's crate to punish him. Your dog should consider his crate a happy, comfortable, and safe place. If you use his crate to punish your dog, chances are he will be fearful and anxious when left in it.

It is also important that you never let your dog out of the crate while he is whining or barking. He should be completely calm before you release him. Opening the crate while he is barking or whining simply teaches him that if he makes enough noise, he will be let out. Making this mistake can lead to many sleepless nights as you wait for your puppy to settle down.

Is Crate Training Cruel?

Many people are concerned about whether it's cruel to leave their dog in a cage for any amount of time. Most dog trainers agree that it is no crueler to leave your dog in a crate than it is to leave a baby in a playpen or crib. Crates allow dog owners the peace of mind of knowing their dog is safe when they are not there to supervise.

Also, dogs are known den animals. They like having a safe and secure place to call their own. If crate training is done correctly, crates can provide this safe haven. Dog owners often report that their dogs continue to seek out their crates long after house training has been accomplished. For others, once the dog is able to be left alone for several hours without having an accident or becoming destructive, they stop using the crate and allow their dogs free run of their homes while they are out.



Mouthing and Nipping

For puppies, much of playing is spent using their mouths and needle-sharp teeth to chew and investigate objects. These activities are normal and harmless puppy activities unless you are the object of being chewed and investigated! Puppies love to play with people. They chew on their fingers and toes and they investigate people's bodies with their mouths and teeth. These behaviors may be considered cute when the puppy is seven weeks old, but are not nearly so endearing when the puppy is four or five months old. Although mouthing and nipping tend to diminish as the puppy matures, here are some helpful tips to get you through your pet's teething period:



What to do:

- Substitute a toy or chew bone when the puppy tries to chew on fingers and toes.
- Puppies tend to mouth hands whenever stroked and patted. When you pat the puppy, distract him by feeding tiny pieces of treat from your other hand. This will accustom the pup to being touched without mouthing.
- Give a high pitched yelp, as if you were in pain, when the puppy bites too hard. This should startle the puppy and cause him to stop, at least momentarily. Praise the puppy for stopping and/or for licking you.
- Time-outs can be effective, especially for curbing mouthing in older puppies and adolescent dogs. When you receive a hard bite, give a high-pitched yelp and (a) walk away from the puppy and ignore it for 30 to 60 seconds, OR (b) leave the room for 30 to 60 seconds. Option B is only feasible if your belongings will be safe from the puppy and if the puppy will be safe where it is.
- Encourage non-contact forms of play such as fetch and tug-of-war, rather than wrestling and rough play.
- Provide interesting and novel toys so the puppy will be inclined to play with these rather than your slippers.
- Provide plenty of opportunity for your dog to play with other puppies and with friendly adult dogs. It's important that it can engage with non-human playmates.
- Be patient and understanding; playful mouthing is normal behavior for a puppy or young dog.

What not to do:

- Avoid enticing the puppy to play by waving your fingers or toes in his face or slapping the sides of his face.
- You should not discourage the puppy from playing with you. Play builds a strong bond between the dog and his human family. The objective is to teach the puppy to play gently-not to stop altogether.

- Avoid jerking your hands or feet away from the puppy when he mouths. This encourages him to jump forward and grab at you. It's much more effective to let your hands or feet go limp so you aren't much "fun" for him to mouth.
- Physical punishment for playful mouthing (slapping, hitting, etc.) can make the puppy afraid of you and could even cause the mouthing to escalate into aggression. We've heard of various "cavemen" methods such as scruff shaking, whacking the pup on the nose, sticking fingers down the puppy's throat - these are cruel and inhumane.
- **Bite Inhibition:**

Teaching a puppy to modify his mouthing behavior is an opportunity to teach him bite inhibition. Bite inhibition refers to a dog's ability to control and inhibit the force of his mouthing. A puppy or dog that hasn't learned bite inhibition may not recognize the sensitivity of human skin and bite too hard, even in play. Some behaviorists and trainers maintain that a dog who understands the amount of force necessary to hurt people, if ever in a situation where he does actually bite a person in a non-playful manner, will be less likely to bite and break skin. To teach your puppy bite inhibition, first you will encourage him to play with your hands. Continue play until the puppy bites especially hard. Immediately give a high-pitched yelp and let your hand go limp. When the puppy is startled and turns to look at you or look around, remove your hand. Ignore the puppy for 10 to 20 seconds or, if he resumes mouthing, get up and move away for 10 to 20 seconds. The next step is to return and encourage the puppy to play with you again. This is critical for teaching the puppy that if he is gentle, play continues but if he is too rough, play stops. Play with the pup until he bites hard again and repeat the sequence. As you detect that the puppy is inhibiting those really hard bites, target slightly less painful bites. Persist with the process until the puppy can play with your hands but control the force of his bites to the extent that you feel little or no pressure at all. This can take as little as a day or as long as a few weeks.

When mouthing becomes aggression:

Puppies sometimes have temper tantrums. Usually a tantrum will happen when you are making the puppy do something he doesn't want to do. This might be as benign as simply handling or restraining him. A tantrum can also occur when play escalates, much the same as when children play and one child gets upset or angry. A puppy temper tantrum involves more than a playful mouthing, but it isn't always easy to tell the difference. Possible indicators that your puppy is having a tantrum include becoming quite stiff in its body, it may pull its lips back to expose its teeth, and bites will be directed toward your hands and may be much more painful than what it may inflict during play. If you think your puppy is having a tantrum, it is best to take a firm hold of your puppy and say, "That's enough!" and immediately carry your puppy to a quiet, confined area such as a small room or its crate. Leave the puppy for no more than five minutes. When you return, resume whatever you were doing with the puppy before the tantrum occurred, assuming it was something the puppy needs to learn such as how to remain still for body inspection or during grooming, or if you were attempting to teach it appropriate play behaviors. Some puppies may exhibit behavior that goes beyond the basic tantrum. If you believe that your puppy is biting aggressively, you should definitely seek help from a certified applied animal behaviorist, veterinary behaviorist, or certified professional dog trainer.



Bloat: A little Known and Serious Health Risk for Dogs

Bloat can kill in less than an hour, so time is of the essence

Bloat is a very serious health risk for many dogs, yet many dog owners know very little about it. It may be the second leading killer of dogs after cancer. Older males and deep-chested dogs are particularly at risk. This information is not intended to replace advice or guidance from veterinarians or other pet care professionals. It is simply being shared as an aid to assist you with your own research on this very serious problem. If you believe your dog is experiencing bloat, get your dog to a veterinarian IMMEDIATELY! Notify your vet to alert them you're on your way with a suspected bloat case. It is better to be safe than sorry! Be prepared! Know what to do in an emergency.



- If your regular vet doesn't have 24-emergency service, keep the phone number of your local animal emergency center readily accessible.
- Always keep a product with simethicone on hand (Mylanta Gas, not regular Mylanta) in the event your dog has gas. If you can reduce or slow the gas, you've probably bought yourself a little more time to get to a vet if your dog is bloating.

Your dog may exhibit one or more of the following symptoms:

- Dog is not acting his or her usual self.
- Attempts to vomit, is gagging or coughing, heavy salivating or drooling is occurring.
- Significant anxiety and restlessness, whining, pacing, and/or licking the air.
- "Hunched up" or "roached up" appearance.
- Looking at their side or other evidence of abdominal pain or discomfort.
- Bloated abdomen that may feel tight (like a drum) and lack of normal digestive sounds.
- Pale or off-color gums and/or foaming mucous around the mouth.
- May refuse to lie down or even sit down and may stand spread-legged.
- May attempt to eat small stones and twigs.
- Drinking excessively.

Some bloat prevention tips:

- Avoid highly stressful situations. If you can't avoid them, try to minimize the stress of boarding, new dog in the household, change in routine, etc.
- Do not exercise for several hours before and especially after eating.
- Do not use an elevated food bowl.
- Deter rapid eating by placing a large smooth stone in the center of the dog bowl so the dog will eat around it.
- Feed two or three smaller meals daily instead of just one large meal.
- Try to limit water one hour before or after a meal.
- Feed a high protein (30%) diet, avoid foods that list fat as one of the first four ingredients and avoid foods containing citric acid and change foods gradually.

Any dog may develop bloat but the following breeds are particularly at risk: German Shepherd, Great Dane, Doberman, Afghan, Airedale, Akita, Malamute, Basset, Bernese Mountain Dog, Borzoi, Bouvier des Flandres, Boxer, Bullmastiff, Chesapeake, Collie, Daschund, English Springer Spaniel, Golden Retriever, Gordon Setter, German Shorthaired Pointer, Great Pyrenees, Newfoundland, Old English, Weimaraner, Wolfhound, Sighthounds, Irish Setter, Labrador Retriever, Miniature Poodle, Standard Poodle, and Bloodhounds.

What is Bloat?

Bloating of the stomach usually happens when there's abnormal accumulation of air, fluid, or foam in the stomach called gastric dilation. Stress can be a significant contributing factor. Bloat can occur with or without "volvulus" or twisting. As the stomach swells, it may rotate 90 degrees to 360 degrees, twisting between its fixed attachments at the esophagus (food tube) and at the duodenum (the upper intestine). The twisting stomach traps air, food, and water in the stomach. This obstructs veins in the abdomen, leading to low blood pressure, shock, and damage to internal organs. The combined effect can quickly kill a dog. If you suspect bloat, get to a vet as soon as possible. To learn more, please visit www.globalspan.net/bloat.htm



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Nutrition for Your Dog or Cat

- A healthy dog or cat starts with good nutrition using fresh, wholesome foods
- Rotate proteins – there is no perfect food and every food offers its own valuable nutrients
- To help your budget, rotate in a high quality kibble or canned food with a raw meal
- Use quality supplements or make your own

Pet Food Ingredients Guide

The following table can be used as a 'clip-and-carry' watch list to help you negotiate the shelves of your pet food. Try to choose foods with ingredients that only appear in the 'Good' Column. Disregard products with lots of ingredients tagged 'Bad' and 'Ugly.'

Meats

Good

Named Meats
Beef
Chicken, Turkey
Venison, Duck
Salmon
Lamb

Bad

Meat Meal (un-named species)

Poultry Meal (un-named species)

Fish Meal (un-named species)

Ugly

Meat & Bone Meal (unspecified)
Meat By-products
Poultry By-products
Poultry Digest
Fish Protein Digest
Animal Digest (Intestinal Contents)

Fish and Oils

Good

Safflower Oil
Flaxseed Oil
Olive Oil
Salmon Oil

Bad

Soybean Oil
Corn Oil
Cottonseed Oil
Fish Oil (unspecified type)

Ugly

Rendered Animal Fats
Poultry Fat
Vegetable Oil (unspecified type)

Other Protein

Good

Eggs
Yogurt, Kefir
Cottage Cheese

Bad

(Dried) Egg Product
Buttermilk (Residue from churning cream)
Cheese Product

Ugly

Poultry Hatchery By-product
Soy Protein Isolate
Blood Meal, Plasma Protein

Vegetables and Fruits

Good

Leafy Greens, Sweet
Potatoes, Carrots,
Broccoli, Zucchini,
Celery, Green Beans
Potatoes, Yams

Bad

Tomato Pomace (A By-product
of ketchup production)

Ugly

Onion (toxic), Potato Product,
Potato Starch

Grapes (toxic); Yams (toxic)

Apples, Melon, Banana,
Papaya, Mango
Cranberries, Blueberries

Apple Pomace

Peanut Meal, Peanut Hulls, Sorghum

Preservatives

Good

Rosemary

Bad

Citric Acid, Mixed Tocopherols

Ugly

BHA, BHT, Ethoxyquin, TBHQ

Grains

Good

No Grain

Organic Whole Grains

Non-gluten Grains – Quinoa,

Amaranth, Millet

Teff, Spelt, Oats, Barley, Rye

Bad

Glutinous grains

Wheat

Soy, Soybean Meal, Soybean Hulls

Rice, Beet Pulp Rice

Brewer's Dried Yeast

Ugly

Husks, Hulls, Middlings

Corn Gluten, Rice Gluten

Peanut Meal, Peanut Hulls,
Sorghum

Gluten, Rice Hulls, Brewer's Rice

Vitamins and Minerals

Good

Amino Acid Chelates

Fewer = better

Bad

Medadione Sodium Bisulphate

Ugly

Iron/Ferrous Oxide (= Rust)

Many = food based ingredients are
nutritionally deficient.

Other

Good

Herbs & Botanicals

Enzymes

Apple Cider Vinegar

Bad

Ingredient Splitting (one
ingredient listed more than once)

Salt, Sea Salt

Sugar

Ugly

Colors (esp. Caramel Color,
Titanium Dioxide)

Corn Syrup

Glycerin

Processing

Good

Raw, Fresh, Frozen,

Freeze Dried, Dehydrated

Organic, Hormone Free,

GMO Free

Bad

Baked

Ugly

Canned & Extruded

2/26/13 PetFoodIngredients Guide | TheHonestKitchen www.thehonestkitchen.com/2009/11/10/dog-food-guide-the-good-the-bad-the-ugly/

Suggested Reading Materials

① Dr. Pitcairn's Complete Guide to Natural Health for Dogs and Cats by Richard H. Pitcairn, DVM, PhD and Susan Hubble Pitcairn ② Reigning Cats & Dogs by Pat McKay ③ Pet Allergies by Alfred J. Plechner, DVM and Martin Zucker

You control the health of your companion animal! Small simple diet changes can make pronounced improvements in the health of your animal. There are many high quality commercial foods that can be supplemented with dehydrated and raw foods so there is flexibility for you and for your animal.



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How Do I Maintain My Dog's Oral Health?

Did you know that not caring for your dog's teeth can lead to multiple oral diseases?

Your dog is susceptible to many of the same oral diseases that people are but more times than not, dogs don't get the proper oral care. Here is a list of common problems caused by lack of good dental hygiene.

Periodontal disease is a painful infection between the tooth and the gum that can result in tooth loss and spread infection to the rest of the body. Signs are loose teeth, bad breath, tooth pain, sneezing and nasal discharge.



Gingivitis is an inflammation of the gums caused mainly by accumulation of plaque, tartar and disease-producing bacteria above and below the gum line. Signs include bleeding, red, swollen gums and bad breath. It is reversible with regular teeth cleanings.

Halitosis—or bad breath—can be the first sign of a mouth problem and is caused by bacteria growing from food particles caught between the teeth or by gum infection. Regular tooth-brushings are a great solution.

Swollen gums develop when tartar builds up and food gets stuck between the teeth. Regularly brushing your dog's teeth at home and getting annual cleanings at the vet can prevent tartar and gingivitis.

Proliferating gum disease occurs when the gum grows over the teeth and must be treated to avoid gum infection. An inherited condition common to boxers and bull terriers, it can be treated with antibiotics.

Mouth tumors appear as lumps in the gums. Some are malignant and must be surgically removed.

Salivary cysts look like large, fluid-filled blisters under the tongue, but can also develop near the corners of the jaw. They require drainage, and the damaged saliva gland must be removed.

Canine distemper teeth can occur if a dog had distemper as a puppy. Adult teeth can appear looking eroded and can often decay. As damage is permanent, decayed teeth should be removed by a vet.

Understanding how to maintain good dental health for your dog and looking for indications that there may be a problem is the only way to ensure the best care possible.

Brushing and regular vet checks are highly recommended.

The ASPCA has a very good article on the proper oral care for dogs with a complete list of what to do and how to check for dental infection and disease. Visit the the link below for more information.

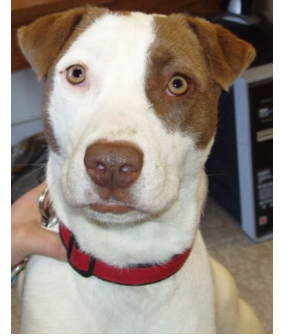
<http://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/dog-care/dog-care-dental-health.aspx>



PARVOVIRUS

Parvovirus is a HIGHLY CONTAGIOUS virus that attacks the intestines and causes sloughing of the inner layers of the intestine. The most common symptoms of this disease (the “intestinal form”) are vomiting and diarrhea.

Parvovirus is contagious to dogs only—not to cats or people. Any age, breed, or sex of dog could be affected by parvovirus. However, infection with parvovirus does not automatically mean illness. Several factors such as age, environment, stress, parasites, and general health status of each individual dog infected could affect the severity of the disease. The degree of illness could range from very mild to unapparent to very severe, often resulting in death. The disease is usually more severe in young dogs (less than 6 months of age) and old dogs (more than 8 years of age).



Parvovirus is resistant to extremes of temperature (i.e., it survives freezing and extreme heat) and is unharmed by detergents, alcohol, and common disinfectants. Direct transmission occurs when an infected dog comes in contact with a healthy dog. The virus is found in heavy concentration in the infected dog’s stool.

The highest concentration of virus in the stool is seen when the infected dog is showing signs of illness. A dog can, however, be a source of infection to other dogs without it having observable signs of illness (the disease may be incubating). Transmission can occur for at least three weeks after a dog becomes infected with the virus. Chronic “carriers” are not known to exist as in other viral diseases. Parvovirus in the environment can infect susceptible dogs for as long as six months once shed in the stool.

Clinical signs include vomiting, fever, and loss of appetite, depression, and bloody diarrhea with a very foul odor (metallic in odor). Infected animals rapidly dehydrate and severe cases progress to shock and death. Early, vigorous treatment of illness caused by canine parvovirus infection can save lives.

Intestinal form (any age dog affected, but more severe in puppies):

- Depression
- Loss of appetite
- Fever (usually above 103 degrees Fahrenheit)
- Vomiting with or without blood
- Diarrhea with or without blood (more serious if blood is present)
- Low white blood cell count (due to immunosuppression)

Death from parvovirus results from dehydration, overwhelming secondary bacterial infection, blood loss from intestinal hemorrhage, or heart attack from invasion of the heart muscle by the virus.

Guidelines for young puppies:

- Do not take the puppy to the front yard, park, for a walk around the block, or to pet stores. These are all places where infected dogs have been or could be.
- Only have the puppy around adult dogs that YOU KNOW are current on vaccinations. There should be no contact with stray dogs or dogs that you are not sure of.
- Do not let the puppy be exposed to any other puppies. These pups could be incubating the disease (and therefore be contagious) without showing signs of illness.
- Always wash your hands after handling any dog.
- Vaccination is the most effective preventive measure for canine parvovirus disease. A properly immunized dog will have circulating antibodies in the blood that will destroy parvovirus following exposure. Dogs remain HIGHLY SUSCEPTIBLE to the parvovirus until two to four weeks after the last injection of the immunization series.

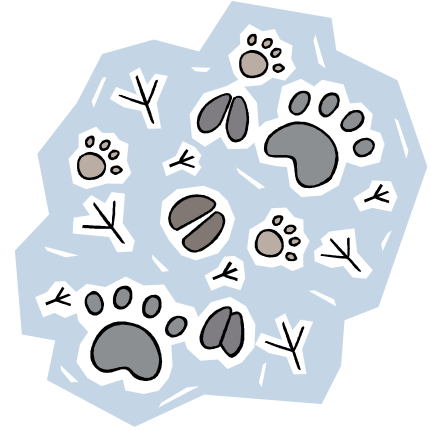
Notify Your Veterinarian if the Following Occurs:

- Your dog’s stool contains blood or the diarrhea returns.
- You cannot medicate your dog as instructed.
- Your dog vomits or is reluctant to eat.
- There is a change in your dog’s general health.
- Your dog does not drink water.

A Poison Safe Home

Foods to Avoid Feeding Your Pet

- Alcoholic beverages
- Avocado
- Chocolate (all forms)
- Coffee (all forms)
- Fatty foods
- Macadamia nuts
- Moldy or spoiled foods
- Onions, onion powder
- Raisins and grapes
- Salt
- Yeast dough
- Garlic
- Products sweetened with xylitol



Warm Weather Hazards

- Animal toxins—toads, insects, spiders, snakes and scorpions
- Blue-green algae in ponds
- Citronella candles
- Cocoa mulch
- Compost piles, fertilizers
- Flea products
- Outdoor plants and plant bulbs
- Swimming pool treatment supplies
- Fly baits containing methomyl
- Slug and snail baits containing metaldehyde

Medication Common examples of human medications that can be potentially lethal to pets, even in small doses, include:

- Pain killers
- Cold medicines
- Anti-cancer drugs
- Antidepressants
- Vitamins
- Diet pills

Common Household Hazards

- Fabric softener sheets
- Mothballs
- Post-1982 pennies (due to high concentration of zinc)

Holiday Hazards

- Christmas tree water (may contain fertilizers and bacteria, which if ingested, can upset the stomach.)
- Electrical cords
- Ribbons or tinsel (can become lodged in the intestines and cause intestinal obstruction—most often occurs with kittens!)
- Batteries
- Glass ornaments

Non-toxic Substances for Dogs and Cats

- The following substances are considered to be nontoxic, although they may cause mild gastrointestinal upset in some animals:
- Water-based paints
- Toilet bowl water
- Silica gel
- Poinsettia
- Cat litter
- Glue traps
- Glow jewelry



Weather Tips for Pets

Cold Weather Tips:

- Keep your pets indoors! Outside, dogs and cats can freeze or become lost, stolen or injured.
- Supervise your dog when off-leash in snow or ice-especially during a snowstorm. Dogs may lose their scent in snow and ice and become lost.
- Wipe off your dog's paws, legs and stomach when he comes in from the snow or ice. Salt or other chemicals might make your dog sick if he swallows them while licking his paws. What's more, his paw pads are sensitive and might bleed if snow or ice covers them.
- If your pooch has very short hair, think about getting him a warm doggie coat or sweater. Make sure he is protected on top of his belly.
- Never leave your dog, cat or any other animal friend alone in a car in very cold weather! A car can act as a refrigerator and your animal could freeze. So, if you take your animal friends on a trip, make sure you and your family take them wherever you go.
- Some dogs may be sensitive to the cold because they are sick, old, or simply because of their breed. If your dog is sensitive, try not to keep him outside too long.
- Make sure all of your animal friends have a warm place to sleep that's off the floor and away from places where cold air can reach. They would be happy and cozy in a doggie or kitty bed or cuddled up on a warm blanket.



Hot Weather Tips:

- Bring your dog indoors when it's too hot and let him relax in the coolest part of your home with you.
- Keep kittens indoors, and always provide all of your furry friends with plenty of fresh cold water.
- Never leave your animal loose outside. Your animal friend might become lost, injured, or even stolen!
- In really hot weather, don't leave your pooch standing outside too long and keep his walks short. He is closer to the street than you are and his paws can burn.
- Have fun and exercise with your animal in the early morning or at night, when it's cooler. Do not play with your animal after he has eaten or in really hot weather.
- If your kitten or dog is overweight or old, have it stay indoors as much as possible.
- Never leave a cat, dog, or any other animal friend alone in a car in hot weather! The inside of a car can heat up very quickly-even with a window cracked open-and your animal will suffer. If your animal friends join you on a trip, make sure you take them everywhere you go. Bring along plenty of fresh cold water.
- If you take your dog to the beach, make sure it has a place to rest that's away from the sun, and give it plenty of fresh water to drink. Remember to rinse your dog if it takes a dip in the ocean.

Pit Bull Friendly Establishments

You are interested in adopting a Pit Bull but are wondering if boarding, doggie daycare, insurance coverage or living arrangements will become a challenge. Listed below are several options that support Pit Bulls:

Apartment Complexes that are Pit Bull Friendly

Sierra Point Apartments

4400 El Rancho Dr.
Sun Valley, NV 89433
775.673.0532

*Dog must be at least 1 year old

*Dog must be spayed/neutered

Silver Ridge Apartments

1555 Sky Valley Drive
Reno, NV 89523
775.746.0300

Renting a house is a possibility. There are pet-friendly landlords in the area.

Reno Rental Finders

775.342.5478

*This is a company that connects landlords with tenants. Please call and find out if they have any available rentals that are Pit Bull friendly.

Pit Bull Friendly Homeowners Insurance

Farmers Insurance
State Farm Insurance

*Please call and see if these companies can meet your needs.

Daycare, Boarding and Grooming

All breeds must be current on vaccinations and must be spayed or neutered.

♥ Dogs Inc. 775.826.9911

♥ A Doggies Dream 775.322.5400

*spay/neuter not required

♥ Advanced Pet Care 775.321.5300

*spay/neuter not required


♥ Kreature Komforts Animal Hospital 775.356.5524

♥ All Creatures Veterinary Hospital 775.851.3151

*spay/neuter not required

♥ Bark About Mobile Spa 775.425.4488

*(No pets over 30 lbs.)

Because Pit Bulls  Too!!



Grab a Bite with your Pit!

*All breeds are welcome in outdoor areas.

♥ Anchors Bar and Grill

325 Harbour Cove Dr., Sparks, NV 89434

*Sparks Marina

♥ Wild River Grille

17 S Virginia St., Reno, NV 89501

♥ Whole Foods

6139 S Virginia St., Reno, NV 89502

Take Your Buddy to the Dog Park!

♥ Sparks Marina Dog Park & Beach ♥

300 Howard Drive, Reno, NV 89434

*Enclosed area on the south side of the Sparks Marina. Nice beach for dog swimming.

♥ Virginia Lake Dog Park ♥

Mountain View and Lakeside Drive, Reno, NV 89509

*Completely fenced

♥ Rancho San Rafael Regional Park ♥

1595 North Sierra Street, Reno, NV 89503

*Largest off leash space in our area. Pond and creek for dogs to play in. Benches, picnic areas, and restrooms make this a great place to take your family and dog.

♥ Link Piazza Dog Park ♥

4740 Parkway Drive, Reno, NV 89502

*This fenced doggy play area offers double gated entry. There are separate areas for large and small dogs, shaded seating areas, watering stations, and walking trails.

Please make sure your dog is up-to-date on all vaccinations when visiting a dog park!