

## WINTER 2023 RESPIRATORY VIRUS UPDATE - 11.28.2023:

I'm sure most of you have read or heard on the news about this new respiratory virus for canines circling the US. We wanted to take a moment to discuss a few of the interventions we have set in place as we took a proactive position the moment we heard about this:

1.) We removed all shared water sources.

- This is the most common way for things to spread among dogs.
- We are fortunate enough it's cool weather now so we can have no water in the yard.
- We've always had individual water bowls in the kennels that get washed nightly, and they are routinely checked to make sure everyone has water.

2.) We will be temporarily barring anyone who has been or is traveling from any hot zone states. Current states include:

- |  |  |                                  |                                       |
|--|--|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> California    | <input type="checkbox"/> Colorado      | <input type="checkbox"/> Florida | <input type="checkbox"/> Georgia      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Idaho         | <input type="checkbox"/> Illinois      | <input type="checkbox"/> Indiana | <input type="checkbox"/> Maryland     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Massachusetts | <input type="checkbox"/> New Hampshire | <input type="checkbox"/> Oregon  | <input type="checkbox"/> Rhode Island |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vermont       | <input type="checkbox"/> Washington    |                                  |                                       |

3.) As you know we always have and continue to sanitize and clean our yards and kennels nightly. In addition, any long term boardings get moved to a new kennel weekly so we can maintain a high level of cleanliness and keep the dogs healthy.

4.) Our front office and our kennel rooms are on separate HVAC systems by design. This allows us (as we've done with kennel cough cases) to immediately move and quarantine a potentially sick dog in our front office until they can be picked up, without having them in the same air circulation as the rest of our dogs.

5.) We've been talking to our veterinarians as well as other boarding and daycare providers in other states to find out what's working, and what we can do to continue to be preventative.

- We're looking into installing a UV filtration system in all of our HVAC units and other options. This helps to kill germs and limit the spread of some viral infections.
- We already require vaccination for kennel cough, our veterinarian also recommends to go ahead and get the canine influenza vaccine as well. (This is not a hard requirement from us, but is advised)

6.) As with anything of this nature, if your pup is senior, already has any underlying conditions, or is prone to kennel cough, it would be advisable to hold off daycare and boarding until this clears.

7.) We are fortunate enough that our manager, Jen Ornelas, is also a certified and trained vet tech. She worked in the field for the last 4 years, working closely with veterinarians and managing staff, and still works with vets to keep up her skill set. She is very knowledgeable and informed when it comes to these types of issues and helps us create our intervention plans.

8.) In addition, our veterinarian, Dr. Suh at Trail Pet Hospital, has offered to treat any dogs with infectious respiratory disease at a discounted rate, excluding any bloodwork and outside labs.

Lastly, we appreciate all of you and your continued support of SPD. If there's anything we can do or if you have any questions, feel free to contact us!

