



Dear patrons of WPZ,

It has come to our attention that there is an atypical canine upper respiratory illness that is going around the nation and is present in our community as well. What we know about this disease from our observations is that not all dogs exposed will develop symptoms. Dogs that do develop symptoms typically present with a very mild cough or reverse sneeze. In some patients this cough or reverse sneeze can be persistent. **Recently we have been made aware that 3 patrons of WPZ did have an untreated cough that rapidly progressed to pneumonia.** Although these patients are responding to treatment and are expected to make a full recovery, nationwide there have been many reports of dogs that have similar symptoms that do not respond to treatment. There are still so many unknowns about this illness, including identification of the causative agent, how it is spread from dog to dog, what the incubation period is, how long patients are contagious after infection, and if asymptomatic dogs can spread it. So, in efforts to help mitigate the spread of this disease WPZ would like to share the following recommendations set forth by the American Kennel Club:

- ❖ Keep your dog up to date on all vaccines. Talk with your veterinarian about what vaccines are right for your pet.
- ❖ If your dog has been exposed to a dog with an upper respiratory illness, but is showing no symptoms, it is recommended that you quarantine that dog for at least 2 weeks.
- ❖ If your dog becomes symptomatic it is recommended that you quarantine your dog for 4 weeks after all symptoms have passed.
- ❖ Absolutely do not take your dog to any events, or dog facilities (other than your vets office) if it is showing any signs of respiratory illness such as coughing, sneezing, wheezing, nasal or ocular discharge, fever, lethargy, or difficulty breathing.

As with any communicable upper respiratory disease the best way to protect your dog is to keep them away from public places where dogs are or have been, such as dog daycares, dog parks, grooming centers, boarding facilities, dog shows, and pet stores. Our goal is to equip you with the information you need to make fully informed decisions on your pet's care. Should you decide to continue utilizing the services offered at WPZ, rest assured that we take cleanliness very seriously. All runs and suites are scrubbed and disinfected from top to bottom between pets. All common areas are scrubbed and disinfected twice daily. Dogs who are sick will not be accepted into boarding or play areas. Despite these measures there is still an inherent risk of any dog at Waggle Pet Zone becoming exposed to this or any canine upper respiratory disease.

By presenting your dog for care at Waggle Pet Zone you are attesting that your dog is not sick with any of the previously mentioned symptoms.

Your signature below indicates that you have understood and accepted any and all risk of your dog coming into contact with this or ANY transmissible upper respiratory disease while at Waggle Pet Zone.

Your signature below indicates that you have understood and accepted any and all risk of your dog coming into contact with any transmissible upper respiratory diseases.

OWNER NAME

PETS NAME

OWNER SIGNATURE

DATE