

Canine Cough

Canine Cough, akin to a “doggy cold”, is a generic term used to indicate canine infectious tracheobronchitis, a highly infectious upper respiratory disease that is caused from a number of bacteria such as Bordetella bronchiseptica, Mycoplasma, and viruses such as canine parainfluenza. Coughing, sneezing, and nasal discharge are common symptoms of kennel cough. These symptoms can last from a few days to several weeks.

We recommend that all dogs that enter our kennel be properly vaccinated and that the owners provide us with written proof. However we recognise that like the Human Flu vaccine, the Canine Cough vaccine does not protect against every strain or variant of the bacteria and virus and thus even vaccinated dogs may catch Canine Cough.

Canine Cough **is not** "born" in the kennel, it can be (and usually is) "caught" outside the kennel and brought in by a boarder. A dog can be exposed at the park, grooming shop, pet store, veterinary office, walking around the neighborhood, or any place where dogs congregate or pass through. The disease commonly known as “kennel cough” is not unique to a kennel; therefore, the more appropriate term is CANINE COUGH. Unfortunately, canine cough usually does not show visible symptoms for 5-7 days after exposure and some dogs can carry the bacteria/ virus without showing symptoms. It is impossible for us to tell when a boarder has been exposed to canine cough prior to his/her arrival.

While we make intense efforts to prevent an outbreak in our kennel through extensive cleaning and disinfecting, public awareness, and by requiring vaccinations, we cannot guarantee that your dog will not be exposed. Just as a child who attends school has the potential to contract a cold or the flu, which is seasonal, a dog being boarded also has the potential to contract canine cough, which is also seasonal. Through our efforts, the possibility of your dog’s exposure to canine cough in our kennel is minimal, however; it is still possible.

Springbank Pet Resort follows strict cleansing and sanitation procedures. However, no amount of supervision, sanitation or personalized care by any boarding facility can prevent a dog from catching an **airborne** bacterium/virus. Please consult your Veterinarian before boarding, for further information.