

Kennel Cough Liability

Kennel Cough is a common and highly contagious respiratory disease. Unfortunately, it is impossible to entirely safeguard against Kennel Cough. Even after being vaccinated, dogs may still acquire kennel cough (although usually a less severe form than they would have otherwise). The virus can incubate for up to two weeks, meaning that dogs who appear perfectly healthy during their stay may be carrying one of the viruses that cause a problem. The vaccination cannot protect your dog from all of the illnesses that contribute to Kennel Cough, but we require all dogs to be vaccinated against the most common strains.

Runny nose, watery eyes, and a classic “hacking cough” are the hallmarks of kennel cough. The cough can sometimes cause the dog to wrretch up foamy phlegm. It has also been described as “something stuck in my dog’s throat” or “like a cat trying to hack up a hairball.” It is comparable to a chest cold in a person. A dog with kennel cough will usually clear the infection on its own in one to three weeks... similar to symptoms of a human cold. Spring and summer are the peak seasons for kennel cough infections.

Kennel cough is highly contagious. It can travel through the air or by direct contact. This is why we, at The Dirty Dog Pet Services, LLC, are highly vigilant against this disease. We require all dogs be vaccinated against it and we use kennel disinfectants that kill the virus on surfaces.

Important Points

- Kennel cough has an incubation period of between two and ten days. This means that even a healthy-looking dog today could come down with kennel cough in a week.
- Dogs can get kennel cough even if they have been vaccinated against it.
- Kennel cough can be contracted from dog parks, passing another dog on the street, or, anywhere dogs are in close proximity to one another.
- Kennel cough is usually self-limiting but can sometimes be severe enough to warrant medications.

If your pet develops kennel cough, notify your veterinarian if:

- Your dog’s cough worsens or doesn’t improve over one to two weeks.
- Your dog becomes depressed or stops eating.
- Your dog develops nasal discharge, especially if it is colored.

I am aware that my dog may come into contact with a strain of Tracheobronchitis (Kennel Cough) virus while in close proximity with other dogs, while visiting The Dirty Dog Pet Services, LLC. I am also aware that, even though my dog has been vaccinated against the virus, that is no guarantee they will not contract a strain of the disease. As such, I release The Dirty Dog Pet Services, LLC from any liability for any veterinary medical care arising from suspected Kennel Cough infections.

Owner Name

Dog Name

Date

Signature