Thank you for adopting one of SpokAnimal’s homeless pets!

Every adoption includes a free wellness exam at participating veterinarians, and we encourage you to take your new pet for a checkup, as a dog entering a shelter environment is like a child attending kindergarten for the first time, and may be exposed to many different illnesses. Infectious Tracheobronchitis, commonly known as kennel cough, is a contagious upper respiratory disease. The most common sign of infection is a harsh, dry cough that is often followed by gagging and coughing up foamy mucus. The disease spreads rapidly from one dog to another. Dogs and puppies are given an intranasal bordatella vaccination upon entry to the shelter. If you already have a dog(s) at home, be advised to keep this new dog separated for a period of time long enough for you to determine if your adopted dog is symptomatic as described above. If your dog has not been vaccinated against kennel cough, he/she is highly susceptible to contract it, and SpokAnimal is NOT liable for ANY veterinary costs you may incur for your existing pets. This disease IS self-limiting. This means that unless complications such as pneumonia occur, these signs disappear in 2-3 weeks. We do recommend taking your dog to a veterinarian for antibiotics to help cure the virus and to ease your dog’s discomfort.

Once you have completed the adoption process, all fees and charges incurred are your own responsibility, including, but not limited to, veterinary services, grooming, training, etc. Your new pet is eligible for 30 days of Trupanion Pet Insurance, and enrollment must be completed within 24 hours of the adoption. Make sure to take your new friend in for the wellness exam, and read the information on Trupanion Pet Insurance included in your adoption packet.

IMPORTANT: Parvovirus Warning:
Dogs are vaccinated for this disease upon entrance to our shelter. Since this is a potentially fatal disease that does not discriminate against any dogs prior to admission, they may be AT RISK. Your new dog may receive a clean bill of health at their free health exam (included with adoptions only), but may become ill a few days later. Please read the attached information on Parvovirus. If your adopted pet becomes ill, you have the option to return that pet to our shelter. If you have had the animal for thirty (30) days or less, you will receive a credit (minus a $10 processing fee) towards another adoption. If you adopted the animal and kept it for over thirty (30) days, or you reclaimed your dog from our shelter and want us to take the animal back, you will be charged an owner surrender fee.

SpokAnimal is NOT responsible for any illnesses an animal may have contracted prior to or during the stay at our shelter.

By signing below you are confirming that you have read, understood, and accepted the above conditions and that at the time of adoption/reclaim any questions you may have had about the above statements were answered in full.

Signature: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________
**PARVOVIRUS FACTS**

- Parvovirus
- Symptoms of Parvovirus
- Is it fatal?
- Vaccination against Parvovirus
- Transmission of Parvovirus

**PARVOVIRUS**

Parvovirus is a viral disease of dogs. It affects puppies much more frequently than it affects adult dogs. The virus grows in rapidly dividing cells. The intestinal lining has the biggest concentration of these cells in a dog’s body. The virus attacks and kills those cells, causing diarrhea (often bloody), depression and suppression of white blood cells, which come from another group of rapidly dividing cells. In very young puppies it can affect their heart muscle and lead to “sudden” death.

**SYMPTOMS OF PARVOVIRUS**

Parvo is a virus that attacks the lining of the digestive system. It causes dogs and puppies to not be able to absorb nutrients or liquids. Puppies are especially prone to it because they have an immature immune system. When dogs and puppies contract parvo, they often have diarrhea, vomiting and lethargy. They will usually stop eating and develop a bloody, foul smelling, watery stool.

Symptoms usually begin with a high fever, lethargy, depression, and loss of appetite. Secondary symptoms appear as severe gastrointestinal distress, such as vomiting and bloody diarrhea. In many cases, dehydration, shock, and death follow.

**IS IT FATAL?**

This is a very serious disease. Some puppies infected with parvovirus will die despite prompt and adequate treatment. While no extremely accurate statistics are available, a good guess is probably 80% of puppies treated for parvovirus will live. Without treatment, that percentage or more of the infected puppies would die.

Due to the high fatality rate, parvovirus gets a lot of publicity. Many just assume that any case of diarrhea in a dog is from parvovirus. This is not true, as there are many other diseases and disorders that lead to diarrhea. If you have a puppy, don’t take any chances. Have your puppy examined by your vet if it is suffering with diarrhea- it is better to be safe than sorry.

If your dog becomes infected with parvovirus, he has about an 80% chance of survival. If he makes it through the first three or four days, he will usually make a rapid recovery, and be back
on his paws within a week. It is vital, however, that he receives supportive therapy immediately. It must be stressed that this is not a bad case of doggy flu, and without treatment, he may die.

**Vaccination Against Parvovirus**

Parvovirus is one of the most common viral illnesses of dogs at the present time. It can be very hard to successfully vaccinate a puppy for this disease because the antibody protection the puppy acquires from its mother can interfere with vaccination. Many vets recommend vaccinating puppies every three to four weeks for this virus starting at six weeks of age and continuing until they are at least 16 to 20 weeks of age. It is possible that this vaccine gives lifelong immunity once it does work, but most veterinarians continue to recommend yearly vaccinations for it.

**Transmission of Parvovirus**

Canine parvovirus is carried by dogs. Adult dogs may be infected carriers without showing any clinical signs. Dogs with the typical diarrhea that parvovirus causes shed the virus as well. It can last a long time in the environment, perhaps nine months or more.

Generally, it takes 7-10 days from the time of exposure for dogs and puppies to start showing the symptoms and to test positive for the virus.

Parvo is highly contagious to unprotected dogs, and the virus can remain infectious in ground contaminated with fecal material for months if conditions are favorable. Extremely hardy, most disinfectants cannot kill the virus, however, chlorine bleach is the most effective and inexpensive agent that works, and is commonly used by veterinarians.

The ease with which infection by parvovirus may occur in any unvaccinated dog must be stressed. Parvo can be brought home to your dog on shoes, hands, and even car tires. It can live for many months outside the animal. Any areas that are contaminated with parvovirus should be thoroughly washed with bleach diluted to one ounce per quart of water.

Dogs and puppies can contact parvovirus even if they never leave their yards. It is excreted in the feces of infected dogs, and if someone- human, dog, bird, etc. - steps in (or otherwise comes in contact with) the excrement, the possibility for contamination and transmission is great.

**Crate Training**

Providing your puppy or dog with an indoor crate can satisfy many dogs' need for a den-like enclosure. Besides being an effective housebreaking tool (because it takes advantage of the dog's natural reluctance to soil its sleeping place), it can also help to reduce separation anxiety, to prevent destructive behavior (such as chewing furniture), to keep a puppy away from potentially dangerous household items (i.e., poisons, electrical wires, etc.), and to serve as a mobile indoor dog house which can be moved from room to room whenever necessary.
A crate also serves as a travel cabin for your dog when traveling by car or plane. Additionally, most hotels which accept dogs on their premises require them to be crated while in the room to prevent damage to hotel furniture and rugs.

Most dogs that have been introduced to the crate when young grow up to prefer their crate to rest in or "hang-out" in. Therefore a crate (or any other area of confinement) should NEVER be used for the purpose of punishment.

We recommend that you provide a crate throughout your dog's lifetime. Some crates allow for the removal of the door once it is no longer necessary for the purpose of training. The crate can be placed under a table, or a tabletop can be put on top of it to make it both unobtrusive and useful.

**PREPARING THE CRATE**

**Vari-Kennel type:** Take the crate apart, removing the screws, the top and the door. Allow your pup to go in and out of the bottom half of the crate before attaching the top half. This stage can require anywhere from several hours to a few days. This step can be omitted in the case of a young puppy who accepts crating right away.

**Wire Mesh type:** Tie the crate door back so that it stays open without moving or shutting closed. If the crate comes with a floor pan, place a piece of cardboard or a towel between the floor (or crate bottom) and the floor pan in order to keep it from rattling.

**FURNISHING THE CRATE**

**Toys and Treats:** Place your puppy's favorite toys and dog treats at the far end opposite the door opening. These toys may include the "Tuffy", "Billy", "Kong", "Nylabone" or a ball. Toys and bails should always be inedible and large enough to prevent their being swallowed. Any fragmented toys should be removed to prevent choking and internal obstruction. You may also place a sterilized marrow bone filled with cheese or dog treats in the crate.

**Water:** A small hamster-type water dispenser with ice water should be attached to the crate if your puppy is to be confined for more than two hours in the crate.

**Bedding:** Place a towel or blanket inside the crate to create a soft, comfortable bed for the puppy. If the puppy chews the towel, remove it to prevent the pup from swallowing or choking on the pieces. Although most puppies prefer lying on soft bedding, some may prefer to rest on a hard, flat surface, and may push the towel to one end of the crate to avoid it. If the puppy urinates on the towel, remove bedding until the pup no longer eliminates in the crate.
LOCATION OF CRATE

Whenever possible, place the crate near or next to you when you are home. This will encourage the pup to go inside it without his feeling lonely or isolated when you go out. A central room in the apartment (i.e.: living room or kitchen) or a large hallway near the entrance is a good place to crate your puppy.

INTRODUCING THE CRATE TO YOUR PUPPY

In order that your puppy associate his/her crate with comfort, security and enjoyment, please follow these guidelines:

1. Occasionally throughout the day, drop small pieces of kibble or dog biscuits in the crate. While investigating his new crate, the pup will discover edible treasures, thereby reinforcing his positive associations with the crate. You may also feed him in the crate to create the same effect. If the dog hesitates, it often works to feed him in front of the crate, then right inside the doorway and then, finally, in the back of the crate.
2. In the beginning, praise and pet your pup when he enters. Do not try to push, pull or force the puppy into the crate. At this early stage of introduction only inducive methods are suggested. Overnight exception: You may need to place your pup in his crate and shut the door upon retiring. (In most cases, the crate should be placed next to your bed overnight. If this is not possible, the crate can be placed in the kitchen, bathroom or living room.)
3. You may also play this enjoyable and educational game with your pup or dog: without alerting your puppy, drop a small dog biscuit into the crate. Then call your puppy and say to him, "Where's the biscuit? It's in your room." Using only a friendly, encouraging voice, direct your pup toward his crate. When the puppy discovers the treat, give enthusiastic praise. The biscuit will automatically serve as a primary reward. Your pup should be free to leave its crate at all times during this game. Later on, your puppy's toy or ball can be substituted for the treat.
4. It is advisable first to crate your pup for short periods of time while you are home with him. In fact, crate training is best accomplished while you are in the room with your dog. Getting him used to your absence from the room in which he is crated is a good first step. This prevents an association being made with the crate and being left alone.

A NOTE ABOUT CRATING PUPPIES

Puppies under 4 months of age have little bladder or sphincter control. Puppies under 3 months have even less. Very young puppies under 9 weeks should not be crated, as they need to eliminate very frequently (usually 8-12 times or more daily).
Important Reminders

1. **Collars:** Always remove your puppy or dog's collar before confining in the crate. Even flat buckle collars can occasionally get struck on the bars or wire mesh of a crate. If you must leave a collar on the pup when you crate him (e.g.: for his identification tag), use a safety "break away" collar.

2. **Warm Weather:** Do not crate a puppy or dog when temperatures reach an uncomfortable level. This is especially true for the short-muzzled (Pugs, Pekes, Bulldogs, etc.) and the Arctic or thick-coated breeds (Malamutes, Huskies, Akitas, Newfoundlands, etc.). Cold water should always be available to puppies, especially during warm weather.

3. Be certain that your puppy has fully eliminated shortly before being crated. Be sure that the crate you are using is not too large to discourage your pup from eliminating in it. Rarely does a pup or dog eliminate in the crate if it is properly sized and the dog is an appropriate age to be crated a given amount of time. If your pup/dog continues to eliminate in the crate, the following may be the causes:

   - The pup is too young to have much control.
   - The pup has a poor or rich diet, or very large meals.
   - The pup did not eliminate prior to being confined.
   - The pup has worms.
   - The pup has gaseous or loose stools.
   - The pup drank large amounts of water prior to being crated.
   - The pup has been forced to eliminate in small confined areas prior to crate training.
   - The pup/dog is suffering from a health condition or illness (i.e., bladder infection, prostate problem, etc.).
   - The puppy or dog is experiencing severe separation anxiety when left alone.

**Accidents in the Crate**

If your puppy messes in his crate while you are out, do not punish him upon your return. Simply wash out the crate using a pet odor neutralizer (such as Nature's Miracle, Nilodor, or Outright). **Do not** use ammonia-based products, as their odor resembles urine and may draw your dog back to urinate in the same spot again.

**Crating Duration Guidelines**

- 9-10 weeks about 30-60 minutes
- 11-14 weeks about 1-3 hours
- 15-16 weeks about 3-4 hours
- 17+ weeks about 4 hours (maximum of 6 hours)
BUYING A CRATE

Where to buy a crate: Crates can be purchased through most pet supply outlets, through pet mail order catalogs and through most professional breeders. Some examples are:

**Crate Size and Manufacturers:**
- **Small:** (Vari-Kennel #100 or General Cage #201)
  - Toy Poodles, the Maltese, etc., average weight of 6-10 lbs.
- **Medium Small:** (Vari-Kennel #200 or General Cage #202/212)
  - Mini Schnauzers, Jack Russells, etc., average weight of 11-20 lbs.
- **Medium:** (Vari-Kennel #300 or General Cage #203/213)
  - Cocker Spaniels, Field Spaniels, small Shelties, etc., average weight of 21-40 lbs.
- **Large:** (Vari-Kennel #400 or General Cage #204/214)
  - Huskies, large Samoyeds, small Golden Retrievers, etc., average weight of 41-65 lbs.
- **Very Large:** (Vari-Kennel #500 or General Cage #205/215)
  - German Shepherds, Alaskan Malamutes, Rottweilers, etc., average weight of 67-100 lbs.
- **Extra Large:** (General Cage #206 or Mid-West #89-Z, 89-E or 99)
  - Newfoundlands, Great Danes, etc., average weight of 110 lbs. plus.

INTRODUCING CATS AND DOGS

Cats and dogs don’t have to be mortal enemies. Although a few dogs may never truly be safe around cats, properly introducing your dog and cat will go a long way towards bringing peace to your household.

KNOW YOUR DOG

Dogs usually fall into one of 3 categories when meeting a new cat:
1. They ignore it completely;
2. They are very excited and interested at first, but learn to get along with the cat, or quickly become bored with it; or,
3. They never quit chasing the cat and may even hurt it.

Dogs that fall into the third category should not be kept in homes with cats. Certain breeds, such as sight hounds (Greyhounds, Afghan Hounds, etc.) and some terriers, are generally not recommended with cats, although individuals may be trustworthy.
**BEFORE THE INTRODUCTIONS**

If you are bringing a new dog or puppy into a home with a cat, make changes in the cat's environment well in advance of the dog's arrival. This way, your cat won't blame the dog for what she sees as unnecessary upheaval. For instance: move the cat's bowls onto a counter or the washing machine where the new dog can't reach them. Dogs are very attracted to cat food, due to its higher fat content and flavor. They are also attracted to cat feces. Make certain that both the cat’s food dish and litter box are well out of your new dog’s reach, but still accessible to your cat. Your cat won't get as stressed if these changes in her surroundings occur gradually.

If you are bringing a new kitten or cat into your dog’s home, get the supplies for the cat or kitten in advance, and teach your dog that these items are off limits. Your cat will need a safe spot up high where she can get away from the dog and watch what's going on. This could be on top of the fridge, dresser, or cat tree. Once the cat is comfortable watching from a distance, she will gradually get curious and come down to investigate. Do not try to rush this process. Your cat’s comfort depends on being able to adjust at her own pace.

**THE HOMECOMING**

When you first bring your new dog or cat home, confine her to a private room with the door shut. Let the old and new pets sniff each other under the door. Do not allow the dog to dig at the door, or to stand and bark constantly. If the dog will not stop, this may not be a good candidate for a feline friendly home.

Place towels or beds that smell like the cat in the dog’s area, and vice versa. When the dog is outside, allow the cat to roam the dog’s area, investigating the dog’s scent. Return the cat to her area before the dog comes back in. Then the dog will be able to smell the scent the cat left in his area.

**THE INTRODUCTION**

After a day or so, place a leash on the dog, and open the door between the cat and dog. Allow the cat to come out on her own schedule. Don't force the introductions. Keep your dog leashed and tied at your side or in a wire crate where he can watch your cat, but not get to her. He may get real excited, and this step may take a few days, but gradually Kitty will get closer and Rover will get used to her being around. Keep your dog on a leash in the house at all times so he won't chase your cat. If your dog can't chase her, then your cat doesn't need to run. Once the running and chasing begin, it's a hard habit to break. It is just too much fun for the dog! Your cat won't need to run if she feels safe.

Distract an excited dog with treats and toys or a trip outside until he calms down. You can also ask him to comply with some obedience commands to get his focus off the cat and onto you. If he lunges towards the cat, hold tight to the leash and correct him with a loud "LEAVE IT!" or "NO KITTY!" You don't have to be mad, just sound firm and in control. This is not a request. It is a command. Reward him profusely when he returns his attention back to you, even if only for an instant. Your dog learns by your tone of voice and the consequences he experiences. Bother
the cat, he gets corrected; turn to you, he gets praise, happy talk and fun. Go way overboard with the praise at first, so it's absolutely clear to your dog what you want.

Never let your dog loose with your cat unless your cat has quit running off, and your dog shows no interest in chasing. Gradually the two will get used to each other, and you can relax the rules a bit. They may never be best friends, but they can learn to tolerate each other politely. Who knows, they may both be sleeping on your bed soon!
Your Adoption Includes:

- Spay or neuter
- Wellness exam
- Microchip
- DHPP/BB vaccination
- 1st deworming
- Rabies vaccination

A lifetime of licks and tail wags (priceless)

If a return is necessary within 30 days of the adoption date because of health or temperament problems, a credit of the adoption fee paid minus a $10 processing fee will be issued. This credit can be used towards the adoption of another animal, or other services in the shelter.

If an animal is surrendered 30 days or more after an adoption, no credit will be issued, and you will be charged an owner surrender fee.

The City of Spokane and incorporated areas of Spokane County require that pet licenses to be purchased within 30 days of acquiring a new dog or cat. While pet licenses are not included in the adoption fee, we do have them available for pet owners to purchase.
PLEASE CHECK YOUR PAPERWORK FOR VACCINATION DATES!

Your new pet was vaccinated and given a basic health check by a veterinary assistant on or soon after arrival to our shelter. Vaccinating animals for diseases is the most common preventive measure to make sure pets stay healthy. It’s a safe and effect way to protect pets and people from serious disease.

It is possible for your new pet to experience mild side effects from vaccination. It typically starts within hours of vaccination. Most symptoms are often mild and usually do not persist for more than a few days. Any reaction is a normal response by your pet’s immune system during the process of developing protective immunity.

Allergic reactions typically leave the animals system within twenty-four hours.

Common symptoms your pet may experience:

- ♦️ Mild fever
- ♦️ Decrease in social behavior
- ♦️ Diminished appetite or activity
- ♦️ Sneezing or other respiratory signs with intranasal vaccines
- ♦️ Discomfort or mild swelling at the injection site

Rare side effects, like an allergic reaction, can occur. Your pet may experience symptoms of a more serious reaction to the vaccine within minutes or hours of vaccination.

Rare symptoms could include

- ♦️ Swelling to face and legs
- ♦️ Repeated vomiting or diarrhea
- ♦️ Whole body itching
- ♦️ Difficulty breathing
- ♦️ Collapse

If you believe that your new pet may be having an allergic reaction to a vaccination please call SpokAnimal’s Dorothy Clark Animal Center at (509) 534-4253.
WHAT ARE WE VACCINATING FOR?

Cats

FVRCP: This vaccination is given once a year after boosters are completed. Please talk to your veterinarian.

FVR = Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis: severe upper respiratory infection that is dangerous to young kittens and older cats.
C = Calicivirus: several different strains of calicivirus, range of illness of mild infection to life-threatening pneumonia.
P = Panleukopenia: also known as feline distemper- a highly contagious, fast-moving disease. It can affect cats of all ages, and can remain active in the environment for up to a year.

Dogs

DHPP: This vaccination is given once a year after boosters are completed. Please talk to your veterinarian.

D = Distemper: a serious and often deadly illness that can affect almost any canine, wild or domestic. Distemper is a contagious viral disease. Some early symptoms include: conjunctivitis (runny eyes), fever, lethargy, loss of appetite, and sometimes a nasal discharge.
H = Hepatitis: Early signs are similar to those seen in Distemper. Disease is transmitted by direct contact with urine from an infected dog, and primarily affects the dog’s liver. Canine strain of hepatitis does not cause hepatitis in humans.
P = Parvovirus: this highly contagious virus causes severe, usually bloody, diarrhea and vomiting. It is more commonly seen in puppies, but dogs of all ages can contract parvo. Proper vaccination is best preventative measure against parvo, as it can remain active in the environment for long periods of time.
P = Parainfluenza: a common, highly contagious, viral upper respiratory disease, transmitted by an infected dog when they are sneezing and coughing.

BB: This vaccination is given every six months to one year after boosters are completed. Please talk to your veterinarian.
**Bordetella Bronchiseptica** is a bacterial agent that causes the respiratory disease known as kennel cough. The kennel cough disease can be caused by different kinds of viruses and bacteria, similar to the different strains of human flu. Kennel cough can cause a harsh, chronic cough, as well as nasal discharge and sneezing.

**VACCINATIONS FOR CATS & DOGS**

**Rabies:** Depending on the history of your new friend, this is a one-year or a three-year vaccine. Please talk to your veterinarian.

The rabies vaccination is an excellent preventative of this fatal illness, transmittable across many different species, including humans. Rabies vaccinations are required by law, and boosters are needed at recommended intervals throughout the lifetime of your pet.

**Rabies Inoculation Requirement, Washington Administrative Code 246-100-197(3)**

“An owner of a dog, cat, or ferret shall have it vaccinated against rabies and revaccinated following veterinary and vaccine manufacturer instructions. This requirement does not apply to animal shelters.”

**Fleas/Ticks**
We treat animals upon intake that are found to have fleas and or ticks. Your pet may need continued treatment once a month depending on your veterinarian’s suggestion. Please talk this over with your veterinarian.

updated 01/29/2015