



## Puppy Health Care Guidelines

Health and veterinary care information for puppy raisers located in Denver Metro Area

### Diet

Purina Pro Plan Large Breed Chicken and Rice Puppy

2 ½ c daily unless otherwise instructed by the Puppy Development Department

Puppy should be transitioned to Purina Pro Plan Large Breed Chicken and Rice Adult at 12 months of age or before IFT.

### Medications and Supplements

- Panacur- give one packet sprinkled over food once daily until gone.
- Metronidazole- give one tab twice daily with food until gone.
- VetriMega probiotic- give one tab once daily until gone, at least one hour away from Metro. • Psyllium husk powder- fiber supplement. Give ¼ tsp- 1 tsp, sprinkled on food, as needed for loose stool. One bag will be provided and the raiser will be responsible for purchasing further psyllium as needed.
- Simparica Trio- heartworm, flea, and tick prevention. Give one weight-specific tab on the first day of each month from April through November. 3 months of Simparica will be provided, and the raiser will be responsible for updating the Puppy Health Coordinator of the puppy's weight monthly, so the appropriate Simparica Trio can be provided for each subsequent month that prevention is required. The first dose of Simparica should be given on April 1st.
  - o Simparica comes in weight-specific tabs- 22-44lbs and 44-88lbs
  - o If your puppy is on the borderline of these two weight groups, under-dose

### Vaccinations

Your puppy is current and up to date on vaccinations- rabies, distemper/parvo, bordetella vaccinations.

### Scheduled Exams, Procedures, and Health Evaluations

- **Veterinary Exams at FSD**
  - o Onsite vet exams are conducted on Tuesday mornings from 8am-10am.
  - o The Health Department will coordinate exams with raisers as needed. If a raiser has a health concern or believes their puppy needs to be seen, the below procedure for reporting health concerns should be followed.
- **Spay and Neuter**
  - o FSD generally alters dogs around 12-14 months of age. The Health Department will reach out to raisers around this time to schedule spay and neuter appointments. The raiser is responsible for taking the dog to the appointment and picking them up, unless other plans are made.



- o At least one week prior to the spay/neuter procedure, an appointment at FSD must be scheduled for pre-surgery blood work and a fecal test. The Health Department will schedule this at the same time as the spay/neuter procedure.

- **Breeding Evaluations**

- o If your dog is being considered as a breeding candidate, your dog may not be spayed or neutered until a later date.
- o The Breeding and Genetics Department may reach out to schedule other health evaluations around 12-14 months of age. The raiser is responsible for taking the dog to the appointment and picking them up, unless other plans are made.

- **Grooming- Poodles and Doodles**

- o Poodles and some doodles require grooming every 8-10 weeks or as needed. The Health Department maintains a grooming list and will schedule grooming appointments with raisers every 8-10 weeks.
- o Grooming is performed by Mobile Pet Shine, onsite at FSD, on Tuesday mornings. The puppy must be dropped off in the kennels by 6:45am on the morning of the appointment.
- o The raiser can pick up their puppy between 9am-12pm after grooming. If the raiser needs to drop off or pick up their puppy at a different time, arrangements must be made with the Health Department in order to plan for kenneling.
- o If the raiser cannot make the scheduled appointment, they must communicate with the Health Department more than 24 hours before the grooming.

- **Other Procedures**

- o There may be times when the Health Department recommends a puppy be seen at an offsite clinic for diagnostics or procedures. The Health Department will coordinate these appointments with the raiser. The raiser is responsible for taking the dog to the appointment and picking them up, unless other plans are made.

### **Process for Reporting and Addressing Health Concerns**

- For non-urgent health concerns or observations, use the Health Concern Submission Form – link can be found in the Puppy Portal.
- The Health Department will be in contact within 24-48 hours of form submission. Please check your spam folder if you have submitted a recent form, as emails from FSD often end up here, especially for Gmail users.
- If the Health Department recommends that the puppy be examined by a veterinarian, the raiser is responsible for coordinating with the Health Department to schedule an appointment with FSD's onsite veterinarian. The FSD veterinarian is onsite for exams on Tuesdays from 8am-10am by appointment.
- If the onsite vet is unable to examine the puppy for any reason, the Health Department may advise that the puppy be seen at one of the local veterinary partners. In this scenario, the raiser is responsible for setting up an appointment with the approved veterinary partners. If there are no exams available in a reasonable timeframe, the raiser may be able to take the puppy to a



different location pending approval by the Health Department.

- When setting up an appointment with one of FSD's approved veterinary partners, please put the puppy under the Freedom Service Dogs account so FSD can manage the charges for the exam. The raiser is responsible for submitting notes from the exam to the Health Department via email.
- Raisers living outside the Denver metro area should first try to schedule an exam with the FSD vet if travel is possible. If the puppy needs to be examined by a vet and cannot be seen by the onsite vet for whatever reason, the raiser can set up an appointment with a local vet pending approval from a member of the Health Department.
- For emergencies, the puppy should be taken to one of the approved emergency vet hospitals. FSD consents to stabilizing treatment. As soon as the puppy's condition is stabilized, the FSD Health Department must be notified before further care is provided. In an emergency situation in which the approved emergency vet is not a reasonable option, ie. too far away, the raiser should take the puppy to the nearest emergency veterinary hospital and notify the Health Department at FSD.

### **Health Department Contact Info**

Stephanie Guild- Associate Director of Health and

Reproduction [sguild@freedom servicedogs.org](mailto:sguild@freedom servicedogs.org)

303-922-6231 x223

### **Approved Vet Locations- Denver Metro Area**

#### **VCA Wingate**

*Vet- scheduled exams, routine treatment, and surgeries*

9464 E Caley Ave.

Englewood, CO 80111

303-771-8620

#### **Vida Veterinary Care**

*Vet- scheduled exams, routine treatment, and*



*surgeries* 4175 E Warren Ave.

Denver, CO 80222

303-757-5638

**VCA Deer Creek Animal Hospital**

*Vet- scheduled exams, routine treatment, and*

*surgeries* 10148 W Chatfield Ave

Littleton, CO 80127

303-973-4200

**Hampden Family Pet Hospital**

*Vet- scheduled exams, routine treatment, and*

*surgeries* 3540 S Logan St.

Englewood, CO 80113

303-761-7063

**VCA Littleton**

*Vet- scheduled exams, routine treatment, and*

*surgeries* 2640 W Belleview Ave Suite 200

Littleton, CO 80123

303-794-5574

**Animal Care Center of Castle Pines**

*Vet- scheduled exams, routine treatment, and*

*surgeries* 562 E Castle Pines Pkwy. #C5

Castle Rock, CO 80108

303-688-3660

**Approved Emergency and Specialty Vet Locations- Denver Metro Area**



**Animal Emergency and Specialty Center**

*Emergency and Specialty Vet- emergencies, after-hours care, specialty*

17701 Cottonwood Dr.

Parker, CO 80134

720-842-5050

**CVSG**

*Emergency and Specialty Vet- emergencies, after-hours care*

401 E County Line Rd

Littleton, CO 80122

303-794-1188

**VCA Alameda East**

*Emergency and Specialty Vet- emergencies, after-hours care, specialty*

9770 E Alameda Ave.

Denver, CO 80247

303-366-2639

**VRCC**

*Emergency and Specialty Vet- emergencies, after-hours care, specialty*

3550 S Jason St.

Englewood, CO 80110

303-874-7387