

# doggy daycare and spa

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## April 2009 Newsletter

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### Pawsh Dog Bakery Treat of the Month

Carrot Cookies in the shapes of bunnies, chicks, and eggs are a perfect way to celebrate spring with your four legged friend! Go to [www.treatsfurdogs.com](http://www.treatsfurdogs.com) to place your order today!

**Bring your Basket...** Pawsh Dog Bakery's First Annual Egg Hunt for Dogs will be held on Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm at the Canal and Bridge Streets Gazebo in Portland (across from Powers Park Softball Field). All dogs must be friendly with other dogs and people while on leash. The event will be held rain or shine.

### School Photos for Dogs?

We will be hosting our first "Slobbery Kisses Picture Day" at Doggy Daycare and Spa the week of June 8 – June 12. Photos will be taken by Angela Bouler of Slobbery Kisses Dog Photography... think "school pictures" but for your dog instead! There will be a limited number of photo sessions available per day and pre-registration will be required. If you know you would like your dog to take part in our Slobbery Kisses Picture Day, please see Janice. We will provide everyone with more information (including prices) soon as details regarding our Picture Day Event are finalized.

Don't Forget! April is Heartworm Testing Month! If your dog is due for his/her annual or bi-annual heartworm test, don't put it off! Heartworm is a life-threatening parasite that is easily preventable. Plus, year-round heartworm and flea preventative is a requirement for Daycare Attendance!

Good Dog! Training Classes have starting dates throughout April and at the end of May. The key to solving many behavior problems with our dogs lies with a strong grasp of the basics (for both us and our dogs!) To register for classes, go to [www.janetasmith.com](http://www.janetasmith.com) or pick up a flier in our reception area!

The Spa has been staying super busy! If you would like to schedule your dog for a haircut, please remember to give us at least a week notice so Racheal can be sure to have time to devote to your pet.

Check out new updates to our website at [www.doggydaycareandspa.com](http://www.doggydaycareandspa.com)

## Questions and Answers Regarding Kennel Cough

Q: My dog has been vaccinated so I do not have anything to worry about, right?

A: The Bordetella Vaccine (aka the Kennel Cough Vaccine) is about 85% effective, which means it should protect our pet 85% of the time. Think of it like a flu shot for us. We are protected against the flu

unless we are exposed to a strain that the vaccine did not cover. The Bordetella vaccine works in much the same way. Just because your dog has been vaccinated does not mean they cannot come down with kennel cough.

Q: Where would a dog pick up Kennel Cough?

A: Kennel Cough is an airborne virus that is passed from dog to dog, just like the common cold between children. Dogs can contract kennel cough and upper respiratory infections at a Kennel, Doggy Daycare, the Dog Park, the Pet Store, your friend's dog... anywhere they are exposed to other canines.

Q: Is Kennel Cough serious?

A: It is serious in the fact that it is contagious and your dog won't feel very good for a few days. Kennel Cough may be treated by antibiotics by some Vets, Benadryl or antihistamines by others, and sometimes it just needs to run its course, just like a cold for us. Dogs should fully recover from Kennel Cough.

Q: What is the difference between Kennel Cough and an Upper Respiratory Infection?

A: The difference is much like the difference between influenza and a common cold for us. One just has more symptoms. Kennel Cough obviously has a cough associated with it. An Upper Respiratory Infection includes sneezing, watery eyes and a runny nose.

Q: Are some dogs more susceptible than others?

A: We find that young dogs or dogs who have just started coming to Daycare are more likely to come down with Kennel Cough and/or an Upper Respiratory Infection. They have not built up the immunity as some of our older, more regular attendees.

Q: How are you making sure that everyone is vaccinated for Kennel Cough?

A: We have our Veterinary form that has to be filled out upon enrollment. In addition, our computer system alerts us when a dog is due for vaccinations. Dogs with expired vaccinations are required to provide proof of current vaccinations on or before their next visit.

Q: What are the symptoms to watch out for?

A: If your dog displays any of the following symptoms:

- Coughing, especially a deep-chested cough that sounds like it has a "honk" in it.
- Sneezing and/or "Reverse" Sneezing
- Runny eyes and Nose
- Coughing up or Vomiting of phlegm

**PLEASE DO NOT BRING HIM/HER TO DAYCARE!**

Dogs displaying any Upper Respiratory or Kennel Cough Symptoms will not be allowed in our play group and will be sent home.