

Dear Pet Owner:

You may have heard about outbreaks of “dog flu” affecting pets across the country. This highly contagious and, for some dogs, potentially serious respiratory infection is caused by canine influenza virus (CIV) H3N2 or H3N8.

The good news is that our animal hospital now has a vaccine which is available to help prevent disease associated with both types of CIV to provide maximum protection.

The doctors at Desert Dunes have updated vaccine requirements recently to include Canine Influenza as an annual vaccine. Starting October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018, it will be mandatory for all dogs using our boarding or bathing facilities to be completely vaccinated. If your pet has a current annual examination, you can come in without an appointment at any time to have the first vaccine started. The 2<sup>nd</sup> booster (second Influeza) is 3 weeks after the initial Influenza Vaccine. It takes 6 weeks to be completely vaccinated for the series of Canine Influenza so please plan accordingly. If the 2<sup>nd</sup> Influenza booster is missed or given later than 4 weeks you will need to restart the vaccine series.

Side effects to this vaccine have proven to be very mild. The most common side effect is upset gastrointestinal tract and is only noted in less than 1% of dogs vaccinated for the virus.

We are happy to answer all your questions about dog flu and help you decide whether vaccination is right for your pet. You can also visit [Dogflufacts.com](http://Dogflufacts.com) for more information.

Please call our office to vaccinate your dog today and have them protected from this contagious virus in 6 weeks. Remember this is particularly important if you plan to board or bathe your dog in the near future.

**We are offering 20% off all influenza vaccines until October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018.**

Sincerely,

Eric Jackman, D.V.M.