



Canine Action Project (CAP) is a Canadian registered charity, made up of a group of dedicated volunteers, that assists First Nations communities in Saskatchewan to work towards optimal health for their people, animals and the environment through an integrated One Health approach. One Health recognizes the links between human, animal, and environmental health and associated community well-being. By working with our target communities to improve the health of their dogs, we are helping to achieve healthier, safer, balanced communities for people and their dogs. CAP does not receive funding for its program and relies on fundraisers, grants and donations.

VACCINATIONS

Humans get vaccinations to prevent contagious diseases and so do dogs!

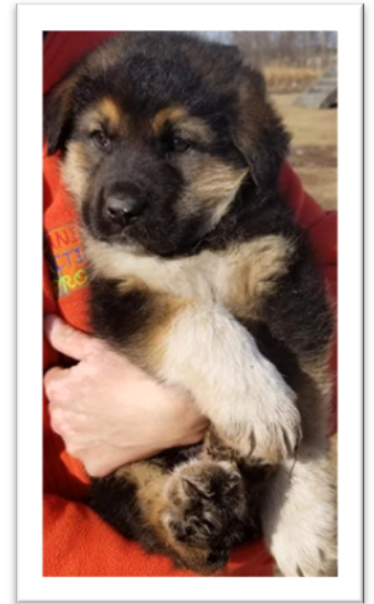
Distemper and **parvovirus** are extremely contagious viruses with a high death rate, no cure (only supportive care that may or may not be successful) and are very costly to treat. The good news is that they are completely preventable with vaccinations. Puppies and dogs that have never been vaccinated before require 3 rounds of distemper/parvo shots order to be fully protected. Annual boosters are highly recommended.

Vaccination schedule for puppies should begin at 7 to 8 weeks old, with boosters given at 12 weeks and again at 16 weeks old.

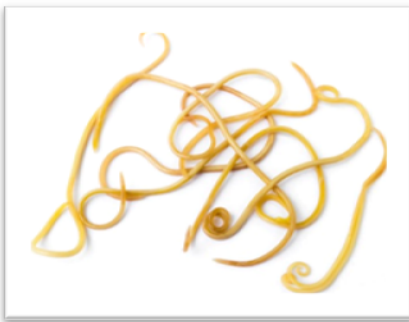
Rabies is a zoonotic disease (passes from animals to humans) that is very serious and most often results in death.

Puppies must be at least 16 weeks of age to get a rabies vaccination.

Your local veterinarian will determine if your dog requires a rabies booster every 2 years or every 3 years.



DEWORMING



Dogs living in free roaming communities are much more likely to become infested with worms when compared to dogs living in urban settings. Worms are very contagious parasites that can be spread to people too. There are 5 main types of worms but roundworms and tapeworms are most the two most common.

Roundworms are extremely common in dogs that live in free roaming communities due to easier access to garbage, raw meat and other dogs. Roundworm eggs are spread through feces and are very contagious. Newborn puppies get roundworms from their mother in utero or from drinking her milk. Roundworms can be treated and prevented by using an inexpensive dewormer available at your local vet clinic called Strongid.

Roundworm infestations are commonly seen in children as they tend to play in the soil where dogs have likely defecated. Always wash your hands after petting a dog or playing outside!

Tapeworm eggs and larvae are spread by your dog swallowing an infected flea either while grooming themselves or playing with another flea infested dog. An adult tapeworm can grow up to 8 inches long.

Serious health problems or even death can occur if worms are left untreated. Talk to your local veterinarian about an appropriate dose and deworming schedule for your dog.



ADEQUATE SHELTER

Dogs living outside require adequate shelter to escape the elements. It doesn't have to be expensive or fancy. Here are some tips when choosing or making a shelter for your dog:

SIZE MATTERS

The dog house needs to be an adequate size for your dog. If it's too big, the heat won't stay inside of the house. If it's too small, your dog is not likely to go into it. Your dog should have enough room to stand up, turn around and lay down comfortably.

PLACEMENT

Placing a dog house right up against your house will help warm the house slightly. Try to position the entrance of the shelter away from direct wind and near another structure. You can also put it near the exterior dryer vent to allow some of the "waste heat" from the dryer to warm up the house. Don't put a dog house directly beside or under the dryer vent.

OFF THE GROUND

Raising the dog house off the ground by placing it on a pallet, cement blocks, 2x4's, etc is a better option than sitting on the cold, hard ground. If your dog house is made of wood, keeping it off the ground will prevent the wood from absorbing excess moisture.

LICE, FLEAS & TICKS

Lice & fleas are small wingless insects that are visible to the naked eye. Both lice and fleas can lead to serious diseases so prevention and treatment are very important!

The American Dog Tick is the most commonly found tick in Saskatchewan and does not carry Lyme Disease. However, Deer Ticks which are capable of transmitting Lyme Disease have been found in Saskatchewan in recent years. Ticks can be active at any temperature above 0°C but are most commonly seen from April to September.

Tick preventative can be purchased from your local veterinarian's office. It is not recommended to administer flea/lice/tick medication purchased from a department store as they are typically ineffective and can be very harmful to your pet.

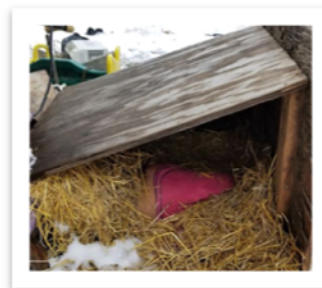
STRAW VS BLANKETS

While a nice thick duvet may seem like it's warm and cozy inside of your dog's house, it will soon become a frozen solid block of ice. When the snow blows in or if your dog is wet, the blanket will quickly freeze.

Straw is a good alternative to a blanket and provides more insulation but must be monitored closely as it can also become wet, moldy, soggy and frozen. Regularly changing out and shuffling the straw will help keep the dog house insulated and warm.

DOOR FLAP

Creating a "door flap" out of old carpet or blanket will help provide a wind break and keep the heat inside of the dog house. Some dogs may rip/chew the carpet/blanket off the door opening. Nail a 2x4 at the bottom of the entrance to keep straw inside the house and to prevent newborn puppies from falling out or from snow blowing in.



Healthy Dogs = Healthy Communities

We are always looking for more volunteers to join our team. Visit our website to find out how you can help!

www.canineactionproject.com



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