



Blue Springs Animal Hospital & Pet Resort
1201 W. 40 Highway
Blue Springs, MO 64015

For The BEST in Pet Care: (816) 229-1544 www.bluespringsanimalhospital.com



Is it time to consider Pet Health Insurance?

With health care costs rising not only for people, but also for pets, we have noticed that more of our clients are obtaining health insurance policies for their pets. They tell us that a pet health insurance policy provides the peace of mind that they will be able to make optimal health care decisions for their pet based on his or her needs, rather than on the cost of treatment.

In August, we invited a representative from VPI Pet Insurance to one of our staff meetings to share with us the benefits of pet health insurance and how it can help our patients receive better medical care, while reducing the financial burden for our clients. We were impressed with how affordable pet insurance can be, especially if started when a pet is young, and with how it can help provide both routine wellness care and the medical and surgical care a pet may need in case of emergency or illness. While it may not appeal to everyone, we wanted to make sure everyone is aware of it as an option.

For More Information: VPI Pet Insurance 1-888-899-4VPI or www.petinsurance.com

MEET OUR STAFF



Welcome Dr. Antonio DeMarco

Dr. DeMarco joined Blue Springs Animal Hospital in June of 2009 after receiving his doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from the University of Missouri in Columbia.

Dr. DeMarco grew up around the Kansas City area, graduating from Liberty High School and attending Truman State University for his undergraduate training.

Dr. DeMarco has loved caring for animals since he was a child. He has a strong interest in preventative medicine, surgery, dental education, and the human animal bond. He has 3 dogs - Casey, Cooper, and Abby - 1 fish, 1 gerbil, and 5 chinchillas.

Canine Influenza Is Near.

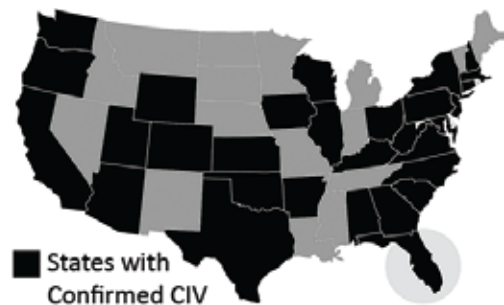
Fortunately, so is a new vaccine.

Canine Influenza H3N8 Vaccine.

Our clinic is recommending vaccination to protect your dog against this emerging disease.



- Canine Influenza was originally discovered in Florida in 2003. It has since spread to 30 states, including all the states surrounding Missouri.
- The virus is highly contagious by direct contact and inhalation. Dogs in Missouri have no natural immunity and exposure will cause illness for ~ 80% of exposed dogs.
- Symptoms do not occur for several days AFTER virus shedding starts. Dogs who have NO SYMPTOMS can infect other dogs, making the virus difficult to detect or prevent, especially in boarding/grooming facilities, dog parks, and other multi-dog areas.
- The symptoms of CIV mimic less serious respiratory infections, like Bordetella, but CIV infected dogs are more likely to develop serious complications like pneumonia.
- Canine Influenza Vaccination reduces viral shedding and reduces the chance that a dog will become ill if exposed. If a dog who has been vaccinated does become ill, the severity of the disease is significantly diminished, with a much reduced chance of developing pneumonia.
- The vaccine is well tolerated with no adverse reactions reported in any vaccinated dogs.
- Dogs who visit places where multiple dogs are present should be vaccinated:
 - Veterinary clinics, boarding facilities, doggie daycare, and groomers
 - Dog parks, neighborhood dogs, and friend's/family's dogs
 - Shelters, adoption groups, breeding facilities, dog shows
- Virus immunity requires vaccination 1 month prior and a booster 2 weeks prior to boarding, dog shows, etc. Immunity lasts approximately 1 year following the initial 2 dose series of vaccines.



BLUE SPRINGS ANIMAL HOSPITAL FLU VACCINE CLINIC:

- 8 AM–6 PM Mon-Fri, 8 AM-3 PM Sat.
- NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY
- NO OFFICE VISIT/EXAM FEE*
- SPECIAL PRICING: \$17.50 per vaccine**

*Restricted to dogs who have already had an exam within the last 12 months

**Special pricing good through 12/31/09

