

Dear Clients,

**New Policy effective as of Tuesday 08-15-17** at Arlington & East Memphis Pet Hospitals - our clinics will require the Canine Influenza Bivalent Vaccine for any dogs that wish to board or groom at either of our facilities, or those dogs owners who wish to "drop off" for the day to receive services at our facilities. This is for your canine's protection only (please see the reasons below for how we came to implement this new policy).

We have just been made aware that Canine H3N2 Influenza has recently been confirmed present in Shelby County. The press release is scheduled to be released to the public within the next week. In a recent survey study in Shelby County, approximately 10% of symptomatic dogs tested positive for this strain of Influenza. This virus, like in people, is extremely contagious amongst the Canine population, and it is potentially extremely dangerous for young, old and immune compromised dogs. For immune competent and healthy dogs, Canine Influenza can still lead to fever and significant respiratory illness.

If your dog visits a groomer or ever stays in a boarding facility or day care facility, it is our professional opinion that your canine family member should be vaccinated annually from now on. We would recommend the Canine Bivalent (H3N8/H3N2) Influenza Vaccine be used. The first year, your dog will need 2 boosters given 3 weeks apart. After year 1, your dog will only need a single annual re-vaccination booster. Each booster is currently priced at \$47, but is subject to change if the manufacturer changes their price.

We feel this is a necessary step to protect your Canine family members moving forward. We are here to answer any questions that you may have.

Arlington - [901-317-4412](tel:9013174412)

East Memphis - [901-317-4414](tel:9013174414)

Sincerely,

*Arlington & East Memphis Pet Hospital Management*