**PALMETTO ANIMAL LEAGUE**

**CANINE INTAKE PROCEDURES**

**Key points:**

* Our goal is to create stress free living with a high level of veterinary care within our limited space. We know both are needed to move animals through the intake process and to the adoption floor as quickly and as healthy as possible.
* Vaccination, deworming, and bathing protocols are designed to prevent disease and illness outbreak; prevention is always preferred to treatment.

Intake steps:

1. All dogs should receive a bath as soon as possible after arrival! If there is any suspicion of ringworm, Peroxiwash should be used; otherwise, any gentle cleansing shampoo is suitable.
2. All dogs with areas of hair loss, with or without crusting, should have both a black light exam and a skin scraping for mites. If any lesion is suspicious for ringworm, it should be cultured even if the black light test is negative.
3. Puppies less than 4 weeks old:
   1. Bath/comb to remove fleas; heavily infested puppies over 4 weeks/2 pounds may receive Capstar
   2. Strongid: every 2 weeks (0.1-0.2ml/lb)
   3. Fecal
4. Puppies between 4 weeks and 7 months old:
   1. Vaccinations:
      1. DHPP every 2 weeks while in the shelter until puppies are 16 weeks old; puppies going out into foster may be vaccinated every 3-4 weeks until 16 weeks old

If puppy is 4-6 months old at intake, 2 doses of DHPP, 2 weeks apart

* + 1. Bordetella orally (one dose)
    2. RV after 12 weeks; if true birthdate is unknown, it’s better to err on the side of caution and wait to give the vaccine rather than give it too early
  1. Deworming:
     1. Strongid: 1 dose on day of admission, and then every 2 weeks while in the shelter through completion of vaccine series (dose = 0.1-0.2ml/lb)
     2. Drontal or Droncit: IF 8 weeks old AND fleas present at intake: dosage as listed on the label. Repeat one month later.
     3. Fecal! Positive fecal results should be treated using guidelines on deworming document.
  2. Heartworm prevention:
     1. Monthly oral prevention (e.g. Heartgard) or monthly topical prevention
  3. Flea prevention
     1. Monthly oral prevention (e.g. Nexgard) or monthly topical prevention (i.e. Advantage)
  4. Schedule spay/neuter for 16 weeks old

1. Young dogs between 7 months and 1 year old:
   1. Heartworm test (4Dx); reminder for follow-up test should be 6 months later
   2. Vaccination:
      1. DHPP: 2 doses, 2 weeks apart
      2. Bordetella oral: 1 dose
      3. RV: 1 dose, 1 year duration
   3. Deworming:
      1. Strongid: 2 doses, 2 weeks apart (dose = 0.1-0.2ml/lb)
      2. Drontal or Droncit: IF 8 fleas present at intake: dosage as listed on the label. Repeat one month later.
      3. Fecal! Positive fecal results should be treated using guidelines on deworming document
   4. Heartworm prevention: if test is negative, start monthly dosing
   5. Flea protection: monthly dosing
   6. Schedule spay/neuter
2. Adult dogs over 1 year old:
   1. Heartworm/4Dx test; reminder for follow up test should be 6 months later
   2. Vaccination:
      1. DHPP – 2 doses, 2 weeks apart unless prior history of vaccination exists
      2. Bordetella – 1 dose
      3. RV – 1 dose
   3. Drontal/Droncit: IF fleas are present at intake. Repeat one month later.
   4. Fecal examination: deworming treatment based on fecal results, following guidelines in the deworming protocol
   5. HW prevention: start monthly administration if test is negative
   6. Flea control: administer monthly
3. Pregnant and/or nursing mothers:
   1. Heartworm/4Dx test
   2. Vaccination: RV only
   3. Deworming:
      1. Strongid: 2 doses, 2 weeks apart
   4. Heartworm prevention: if test is negative, begin monthly prevention

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