



BARC Park at Hannah More

April 2008

Leptospirosis

(Source: www.peteducation.com)

Leptospirosis, Lepto for short, is a disease in dogs that is being seen with more frequency in the area attributed to increasingly warmer temperatures. Vaccinating your dog is the first line of defense and is usually included in the annual DHLPP vaccination. Be sure to ask that the Lepto vaccine is included since some veterinarians had stopped including it since cases of Lepto were previously rare.

Dogs visiting a dog park would most likely become exposed through infected urine, contaminated water, and bite wounds. Freezing weather usually kills the organism.

Initially, infected dogs present with fever, shivering, and muscle tenderness to the point where they don't want to move. It will be obvious that the dog is sick, and veterinary care which involves antibiotics is mandatory. Untreated dogs can have permanent damage to the kidneys and liver depending on the strain which infected them.

Again, the best prevention is keeping your dog's vaccinations current. If your dog should contract Lepto, keep

him/her home from the dog park until your veterinarian gives him/her a clean bill of health.



On Saturday, April 5, Rachel Lachow gave an informative workshop on Canine Behavior. After an introduction, Rachel observed the behavior of the dogs with each other. It was very informative. A few of the points she covered were:

- Choke chains – not advisable. Other dogs can get caught on them.
- Keep your leash with you at all times in case you have to react quickly.
- Watch the dogs carefully – intervene if necessary.
- Do not give treats to dogs other than your own.
- Take your dog off the leash in the enclosed area before opening the inner gate.
- No squeaky toys should be brought to the park.
- If any dog jumps on you, turn away so the dog learns not to do that.

Rachel will be doing more sessions as the weather gets warmer. Notices will go out. If anyone has any questions for her, she said she does not mind being e-mailed. rachellachow@yahoo.com



Brian's Corner

Ten Reasons Why Dog Owners Should Pick-Up after Their Dogs

(Source- www.peteducation.com)

1. It's hard to get off of your shoes when you step in it.
2. Your dog does not appreciate the bath that follows when he/she rolls in it.
3. It makes your car smell while you transport your dog home from the dog park.

Ok, here is where it gets scary...

4. **Parvo Virus** which is one of the deadliest diseases to dogs and also very

expensive to treat because of extensive hospitalization.

5. **Whipworm** which lives in the wall of the intestine and causes vomiting and diarrhea.
6. **Hookworm** like whipworm attaches to the wall of the intestine and can result in anemia and/or inflammation. This also can be passed to humans.
7. **Roundworm**, which also can be passed to humans, affects the lungs and digestive system.
8. **Giardia** can also cause diarrhea in cats and dogs.
9. **Coccidia** are another parasite that can cause diarrhea.
10. Rain can cause feces to break up and spread into water run off which means it becomes everyone's problem.

To avoid 1-10, please pick up after your dog at the dog park.



Things We Can learn From A Dog

Never pass up the opportunity to go for a joy ride. Allow the experience of fresh air & the wind in your face to be pure ecstasy.

When loved ones come home, always run to greet them.

When it's in your best interest, practice obedience.

Let others know when they've invaded your territory.

Take naps & stretch before rising.

Run, romp & play daily.

Eat with gusto & enthusiasm.

Be loyal.

Never pretend to be something you're not.

If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it.

When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close by & nuzzle them gently.

Thrive on attention & let people touch you.

On hot days, drink lots of water & lay under a shady tree.

When you're happy, dance around & wag your entire body.

No matter how often you're scolded, don't buy into the guilt thing & pout...run right back & make friends.

Bond with your pack.

Delight in the simple joy of a long walk.

-Author Unknown-



Committee News

We are approaching 400 members at the Park.

The grand opening has been postponed until the Fall. The paved parking area needs to be completed first.

The large dog area has been reopened. Some of the worst areas have been screened off with temporary fencing.

The committee is looking at alternative surfaces for both areas, namely decomposed granite. This seems to be the surface of choice for dog parks in many areas of the country.

The last Saturday of each month is clean-up day for the Park. Please meet at the park at 10:00 a.m.

Canine Cough

A case of kennel cough, also known as Bordetella, has been diagnosed in a dog that uses the park. The dog is currently receiving antibiotics and will be fine.

Most strains of kennel cough are preventable by vaccine. Although it is not a requirement for becoming a member of the park, it might be something to consider. Kennel cough is contagious, and all boarding kennels require it before a dog can be boarded.

We hope all members will let the dog park committee know if an illness has been diagnosed in your dog so that we may pass this information on in a timely manner.

Newsletter

This is the first issue of the BARC Park newsletter. It will be sent out to all members on a quarterly basis. We would appreciate suggestions for future articles. E-mail suggestions to chesdel@aol.com.



Hanging Out With My pals!

Dog Licenses!!!

Baltimore County dog licenses will expire at the end of June. All owners should get notification in the mail. Please e-mail your new number to barcparkathannahmore@yahoo.com. Licenses can also be obtained at the Baltimore County libraries.

Rabies Clinics

The Baltimore County Department of Health will provide rabies shots for dogs, cats, and ferrets at 10 outdoor clinics scheduled May 3 through June 7. Clinics will be held at various locations throughout the county, rain or shine. Vaccinations are \$7.00 per animal. Go to the following website to access the list of locations:

www.baltimorecountymd.gov/Agencies/health/disease/communicabledisease/rabiesclinicsked.html or call 410-887-2723.



Breed Profile **Akita**

A breed of large dog, originating in Japan, named for Akita prefecture. They weigh from 75-120 pounds and are 24-28 inches in height. They come in 5 colors: Red, Fawn, Sesame, Brindle, and Pure White. They are not considered to be a dog for novice owners, as the dog's owner should be assertive with the dog and have some experience in dog behavior. They are excellent house dogs. They require moderate, but regular exercise. Akitas are known to be very quiet dogs, only barking "when there is something to bark about". These dogs are very loyal, and a pet Akita will patiently follow its master from room to room. This trait is evident in the tale of Hachiko, a dog remembered in Japan for his loyalty, who daily met his master at the train station. After his master's death, Hachiko returned to the train station every day for 10 years until the end of his life. A statue was erected at Shibuya station in Tokyo to celebrate the dog's devotion.



**This was submitted by someone
who had just lost his dog.**

Just this side of heaven is a place called
Rainbow Bridge.

When an animal dies that has been
especially close to someone here, that
pet goes to Rainbow Bridge.

There are meadows and hills for all of
our special friends so they can run and
play together.

There is plenty of food, water and
sunshine, and our friends are warm and
comfortable.

All the animals who had been ill and old
are restored to health and vigor; those
who were hurt or maimed are made
whole and strong again, just as we
remember them in our dreams of days
and times gone by.

The animals are happy and content,
except for one small thing; they each
miss someone very special to them, who
had to be left behind.

They all run and play together, but the
day comes when one suddenly stops and
looks into the distance. His bright eyes
are intent; His eager body quivers.

Suddenly he begins to run from the
group, flying over the green grass, his
legs carrying him faster and faster.

You have been spotted, and when you
and your special friend finally meet, you
cling together in joyous reunion, never
to be parted again. The happy kisses rain
upon your face; your hands again caress
the beloved head, and you look once
more into the trusting eyes of your pet,
so long gone from your life but never
absent from your heart.

Then you cross Rainbow Bridge
together....

Author unknown...