

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Berkeley Humane launches new low-cost vaccine clinic

Keep your pets healthy this summer, especially with canine influenza in the area

BERKELEY, Calif. – July 1, 2019. Today, the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society announced a new Low-Cost Vaccine Clinic on July 13th, 2019, which will provide a vital resource to area pet owners.

With the outbreak of canine influenza in the area, it is more important than ever to make sure your pets are up-to-date on their vaccines. Vaccinating your dog is the best way to keep your pet, and the pets throughout our community healthy. In response to our communities' need for an affordable vaccine clinic, on Saturday, July 13, 2019, Berkeley Humane will offer the canine influenza vaccine for only \$15 including a free microchip. The Low-Cost Vaccine Clinic will be part of the already successful Spay the Bay program which has been providing affordable spay and neuter services for over three years.

In addition to the canine influenza vaccine, a variety of vaccinations will be offered for dogs and cats which will include rabies, Bordetella, Leptospirosis, Panleukopenia, and other core vaccines and heart worm treatments. All vaccinations are \$15-20, and includes a free microchip.

"I am sure people will automatically assume that there is a dog flu season, just like when people tend to get the flu in the winter months, but this is not true," According to Jeffrey Zerwekh, Executive Director at the Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society. "Canine influenza is not seasonal and actually occurs year-round, but pet guardians/owners can take steps to minimize their dog's exposure."

An outbreak of the Dog Flu is currently being reported in some shelters in Oakland, California. The Dog Flu is caused by the canine influenza virus (CIV), and can affect dogs of any breed, age, sex, or health status. Almost all dogs exposed to the virus become infected, with 80 percent of those infected developing flu-like illness. Although CIV is highly contagious, it does not transfer to people.

Berkeley Humane already vaccinates their shelter dogs against the dog flu and highly recommends for owned pets to do so as well, especially those who attend day care, boarding facilities, and groomers. Any dog that frequents a local dog park will also be at high risk of exposure. Anytime dogs get together and have direct contact they are increasing their risk to contracting Dog Flu, but it can be passed in other ways.

The canine influenza virus travels from infected dogs to uninfected dogs through direct exposure, contaminated objects such as clothing, shared toys, food and water bowls, collars and leashes. People touching or handling infected and uninfected dogs can also spread the disease.

Vaccination requires an initial vaccine with a booster vaccine 2-4 weeks after the initial vaccine.

If your dog shows signs of illness such as nasal or eye discharge, lethargy, reduced appetite, cough or fever, isolate it from other dogs and seek veterinary care. Your veterinarian may prescribe other medications. Most dogs will recover within 2-3 weeks with professional treatment.

Who: The Berkeley-East Bay Humane Society

What: New Low-Cost Community Vaccine Clinic for Pets – Dog Influence Vaccinations

Where: 2700 Ninth Street, Berkeley, Ca 94710

When: Saturday, July 13, 2019 at 9:00 AM

Why: Dog flu outbreak in East Bay. Keeping pets vaccinated is the best way to care for their health.

How: www.SpayTheBay.org for more information

Tweet this: Berkeley Humane announces low-cost vaccine clinic on Saturday, July 13 at 9:00 AM. Clinic offers a variety of vaccinations for dogs and cats. All vaccines \$15-\$20 and include free microchip. @berkeleyhumane @spaythebay <https://spaythebay.org>

About Spay the Bay

Spay the Bay, founded in 2016 by Berkeley Humane, offers low-cost spay and neuter services and vaccination clinics for dogs and cats in order to reduce animal overpopulation in the San Francisco Bay Area. We are dedicated to providing spay and neuter services at the lowest cost possible so that pet guardians can access critical services and resources regardless of their financial abilities. We believe that when spay and neuter services are made accessible, pet guardians are more likely to spay and neuter their pets, which prevents the birth of unplanned litters and alleviates overcrowding in local shelters. In addition to providing low-cost spay and neuter services, Spay the Bay also provides the public with a centralized list of low-cost options in the Bay Area, making it easy for pet guardians in the local community to locate critical resources. Berkeley Humane and its programs and services, including Spay the Bay, are largely sustained by grants and contributions from the general public. Learn more at www.spaythebay.org.

About Berkeley Humane

With its origins dating back to 1895, today Berkeley Humane serves the people and animals of our community by providing life-saving programs for cats and dogs, cultivating compassion, and strengthening the human-animal bond. With the support of a dedicated and talented volunteer and staff team, Berkeley Humane intakes animals from municipals shelters around the Bay Area who are often in need of medical care, improved nutrition, enrichment and lots of love. In 2018, Berkeley Humane conducted over 1,000 adoptions and touched the lives of almost 1,000 additional pets through related services. Learn more at www.berkeleyhumane.org.

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