

## **Policies**

### Love Puppy as Much as It Loves You

Rather you realize it or not you are your puppy's best friend. It looks to you for comfort, love, interaction, food, playtime, and returns unconditional love. Your puppy will know when you are down and do its best to comfort you. It is very smart and can pick up on your moods and feelings. Just as we humans have bad days so do puppies/dogs. We ask that you promise, no matter the circumstances, to always love and protect your puppy and provide it with a healthy environment and welcoming home. Remember, a puppy lick is worth a thousand words!

### Visitor's Policy

Due to the prevalence of and easily spread Parvovirus we are no longer accepting visitors to our home to see the puppies until they are at least 7 weeks of age and the visitor has placed a deposit on a puppy. We require you place a deposit on a puppy before visiting because many families will kennel hop when they are puppy "shopping". Parvovirus is transferred through the contact of fecal matter from an infected dog. It can be carried in on your clothing, shoes, hands, and even vehicle tires. We do not want visitors coming to hold and play with our puppies after visiting other kennels and holding other puppies that could possibly be infected with Parvo. Parvo is extremely harmful and often deadly to puppies under 1 year of age rather treated or untreated. Once a puppy/dog has contracted the virus it has a 50/50 chance of survival following treatment (this information was found at <http://workingdogs.com/parvofaq.htm>. Please follow the hyperlink to learn more about parvovirus and the symptoms and treatment methods.) We have heard of many breeders who have lost entire litters due to this horrible disease and it's a risk we are not willing to take. It would also be irresponsible of us as breeders to allow people to come to hold and play with our puppies and possibly infect puppies that have already been sold to the families on our waiting list.

We require the puppies be 7 weeks of age before you are allowed to visit because by then they have had their 5 week NeoPar –Parvo vaccination and their 6 week booster shot which includes a Parvo vaccination as well. You will be allowed to choose 3 puppies to pick from. We limit it to 3 because the puppies have to be watched for any signs of illness after exposure to visitors and it wouldn't be in the best interest of our puppies health to expose all of them to frequent handling of visitors. You will not be able to handle puppies that are already sold. You will be able to see the parents of your puppy but you will not be able to go into their play yard. They would love to play with you but, as state above, Parvo can be carried in on your feet and it can infect adult dogs too and we won't take that chance.

If you are on our waiting list and you are at the top of the list (which begins picking at 5 weeks) it would be in your best interest to pick your puppy from pictures and then at 7 weeks you may come and visit. If you choose to wait until you can see the puppy in person to pick, you will be skipped over on the waiting list and then we will return when we have gone through the list. We do this because it isn't reasonable to expect other people on the waiting list to wait to pick their puppy because you aren't able to make a choice until visiting time at 7 weeks.

### Alternatives to Visiting Us

We understand your desire to visit the puppies before making a decision but we cannot compromise their health. However, we would be happy to provide you with references of those who have previously visited our facility and purchased a puppy or puppies from us. They can tell you about our puppies and how they're raised during their time with us, about us as breeders, and their how happy they are with their puppy. You can also visit those that own labradoodles from us to see if the labradoodle breed is something you are interested in.

We reply to email frequently and email pictures of your puppy on a bi-weekly basis. We are also available by phone in the evening if you have other questions or concerns.

### Picking Up Your Puppy

Prior to picking up your puppy you should not play with or visit other dogs/puppies that don't already belong to you. These dogs could be exposed or infected with Parvo and will increase your puppy's chance of exposure.

We recommend that you do not take your puppy for walks or potty breaks in public places until they are 16 weeks old and have had their full set of booster shots. This will decrease your puppy's chances of exposure and increase their ability to fight it off if exposed.

It is also best to keep your puppy away from neighborhood dogs, friend's dogs, etc. until their full set of vaccinations have been administered.

#### Extended Stay

If your puppy has to stay with us past 8 weeks of age there is an additional boarding charge of \$20 a week. If any vaccinations are needed during their stay with us it is an additional \$5 per vaccination. Deworming will be done free of charge. If your puppy is with us past 12 weeks of age and is being shipped, the airlines require a rabies vaccination – this shot can only be done by a licensed veterinarian and is \$10.

#### Spay/Neuter Agreement

We require you spay/neuter your puppy between 4 and 6 months of age, just before they reach puberty. You must provide us with documentation of spay/neuter by the time your puppy is 7 months of age or the remainder of the health guarantee is void and ACHC (American Canine Hybrid Club) registration and pedigree is forfeited. When we receive the documentation of spay/neuter we will mail your puppy's ACHC registration and pedigree to you.

We will consider selling a puppy with full registration/breeding rights pending a phone interview and references. There is an additional fee for breeding rights.

#### No Strenuous Activities

We ask that you do not allow your puppy/dog to participate in any activity that stresses the joints of the hips and elbows and could affect the development of healthy hips. Such activities include long distances of jogging, jumping down from an elevated area, slippery surfaces, frequent use of stairs, etc

#### Diet

The puppy/dog must always be fed a nutritious, healthy diet. Being overweight can place undue stress on the hip joints and cause hip dysplasia. If it is found that overfeeding is the result of hip dysplasia the guarantee is void due to the purchaser's violation of this policy.

#### Never Place Puppy/Dog in Rescue Organization or Shelter

Puppies purchased from us (Kyle and Tera Mueller) are never to be placed in a shelter or rescue organization. You must contact us in the event that you need to rehome (find a new home for) your puppy/dog. We may be able to take the puppy back here at our home depending on whether we have space available. No money will be refunded in the event you need to rehome your puppy/dog. If we are unable to take the puppy/dog back we will place an ad and up to date picture on our website for prospective lookers.

#### Rehoming – Required to Provide New Owner Info

You can resell/rehome the puppy/dog on your own by placing an ad in a local newspaper but we do require you interview the prospective owner as to how they will care for the dog, other pets, young children and how their children will adapt to a new puppy/dog, etc as well as provide us with their contact information. We enjoy keeping in contact with the families that purchase puppies from us and since they will be the new owners of one of our puppies we want to let them know that we are always here to answer any questions about their puppy/dog and offer lifetime support of them and their new best friend.