



Infection Control Plan for Groomers

Name of business or facility: _____

Purpose of an infection control plan:

A good infection control plan is an important tool to prevent the spread of infections from pets to people (zoonotic infections) and between pets. The King County Board of Health (BOH) requires infection control plans for pet grooming businesses. The Public Health inspector will review your plan at your annual inspection. See BOH Code Chapter 8.03 at: www.kingcounty.gov/depts/health/board-of-health/code.

How to use your infection control plan:

- Use the plan to train employees/volunteers and guide daily operations
- Post the plan in a place where it is easily visible to staff
- Use a weekly check list to assign cleaning tasks to staff and have them check off completed tasks
- Provide all necessary supplies and equipment
- Review the plan with employees/volunteers at the time of hire and annually
- Update the plan as needed

IMPORTANT RESOURCES FOR DISEASE PREVENTION

Public Health Pet Business Program:

Contact Public Health with questions about public health regulations or inspections, infection control, diseases, and emergency closures; to request educational materials; or if you are relocating or opening a new facility.

- Leah Helms, Health and Environmental Investigator, 206-263-8450, leah.helms@kingcounty.gov
- Garrett Turner, Health & Environmental Investigator, 206-263-1877, garrett.turner@kingcounty.gov
- Beth Lipton DVM MPH CPH, Public Health Veterinarian, 206-263-8454, beth.lipton@kingcounty.gov
- Pet Business Program: www.kingcounty.gov/petbusiness
- Zoonotic Disease Program: www.kingcounty.gov/zoonotic

HAND HYGIENE

Hand hygiene is the single most important step in preventing the spread of germs.

When to clean your hands:

- When you arrive at work
- Before and after handling animals
- After completing cleaning tasks
- After removing gloves
- Before eating, drinking, smoking or breaks
- After using the bathroom
- Right before leaving work

Hand washing supplies

- Liquid hand soap
- Paper towels
- Hand sanitizer

How to wash your hands:

- Remove jewelry
- Wash hands and pay attention to finger tips, between fingers, backs of the hands and base of the thumbs
- Wash for 20 seconds – sing “Happy Birthday” twice

How to use hand sanitizer:

- Apply to visibly clean hands (wash dirty hands first)
- Apply squirt of sanitizer to palm and spread over all surfaces and rub for 20 seconds
- Use a sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE)

PPE prevents animal germs from infecting you and others.

Wear gloves when:

- Handling ill animals or animals with skin problems
- Touching animal saliva, urine, feces or blood
- Giving medicated baths
- Cleaning dirty surfaces, soiled equipment, or used cages
- Handling dirty laundry

How to wear gloves:

- Use disposable gloves; throw away after use
- Wash hands after removing gloves
- Avoid touching surfaces and items that will be touched by people with bare hands

Wear smocks/scrubs/aprons when:

- Your clothing may touch an animal
- In areas containing animals
- Gathering up dirty laundry
- Cleaning animal cages and contact surfaces

How to use smocks/scrubs/aprons:

- Put on clean work clothes each day
- Remove dirty work clothes before going home or running an errand
- Keep used work clothes in bag separate from other clothes and wash daily in washing machine

CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

List all products used for cleaning and disinfection at your facility.

- Prepare & store solutions according to label directions
- Label spray bottles and mop buckets with the product name and dilution ratio
- Make up fresh solutions as often as directed by the label, or more frequently if solution becomes visibly dirty
- Bleach solutions should be prepared daily using cold water
- Keep a Materials & Safety Data Sheet (MSDS or SDS) for each chemical you use

Preparing bleach (8.25%) solutions – examples

Bleach solution for a 24 oz. spray bottle:

Add 1 Tbs. of bleach to a 24 oz. of cold water

*Label spray bottle: **Bleach and 1:51 dilution ratio***

Bleach solution for a 2 gallon bucket:

Add 5 oz. of bleach to 2 gallons of cold water

*Label spray bottle: **Bleach and 1:51 dilution ratio***

PRODUCT NAME: _____ USED FOR: _____ DILUTION RATIO: _____:

How to mix it:

PRODUCT NAME: _____ USED FOR: _____ DILUTION RATIO: _____:

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RABIES VACCINATION & ANIMAL BITES

Rabies vaccination following veterinary & vaccine manufacturer instructions is a state requirement

By law, dogs, cats, and ferrets that are 4 months and older in must be currently vaccinated for rabies. A dog, cat or ferret that bites a person must be confined for 10 days to be observed for signs of rabies. Enforcement of the confinement is managed by your city or county animal control agency. See list of animal control agencies under general information at www.kingcounty.gov/depts/health/communicable-diseases/zoonotic/facts-resources/licensing-agencies.

If a bite occurs, see the PDF document “Information for persons bitten by dogs, cats or ferrets in King County” at <http://bit.ly/2D1ybPl>.

First aid for bite wounds and scratches:

- Promptly rinse wounds and scratches with lots of water and wash with soap and water for 3 to 5 minutes
- If the wound is bleeding apply pressure with a clean, dry towel and raise the area to stop the bleeding
- Apply a sterile bandage to the wound
- Consult a healthcare provider if the bite or scratch has broken the skin
- See a healthcare provider for all cat bites. Cat bites are particularly dangerous because the puncture wounds caused by the sharp canine teeth often close up quickly, trapping harmful germs under the skin
- Monitor all bites and scratches closely and seek medical care immediately if any redness, swelling or pain occurs at the site
- Report any bite to your supervisor or person-in-charge immediately
- For dog, cat or ferret bites, notify your animal control agency at: _____

INFECTION CONTROL CHECK LIST FOR GROOMERS

Sanitize tubs, tables, cages equipment and tools between appointments and at the end of the day.
Use disinfected clippers, shears, leads and tools for every animal.

TASK	WHEN	PROCEDURE
Tables & Tubs		
Tables	Daily, between animals	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacuum or sweep all hair and nail debris off of the table and its surfaces <input type="checkbox"/> Clean and disinfect table <i>Allow the disinfectant solution to sit for the recommended contact time</i>
Tubs	Daily, between animals	<input type="checkbox"/> Rinse tub free of debris and clean hair trap <input type="checkbox"/> Apply disinfectant to all tub surfaces <i>Allow the disinfectant solution to sit for recommended time</i>
Equipment & Tools		
Blades, scissors, brushes and combs	Daily, between animals	<input type="checkbox"/> Remove hair and debris from tools <input type="checkbox"/> Soak used brushes/combs/scissors in a disinfectant solution or barbicide <input type="checkbox"/> Spray or soak clipper blades in a disinfectant cleaner or sanitizing blade wash/spray <input type="checkbox"/> Wash tethers and leads in washing machine or soak in a disinfectant solution
Crates & Kennels		
Use standard cleaning and disinfection procedures for crates and kennels that are occupied by animals and in between different animals	Daily, between animals	<input type="checkbox"/> Disinfect cage before placing new animal in it <input type="checkbox"/> Put on personal protective equipment (gloves/smock/scrub/apron) <input type="checkbox"/> Remove towel and/or other cage items <input type="checkbox"/> Scrub the crate/kennel from ceiling to floor with cleaning solution <input type="checkbox"/> Spray disinfectant in cage <i>Allow the disinfectant solution to sit for recommended time</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Add fresh clean towel or washable bedding <input type="checkbox"/> Deep clean as needed to remove build-up of oils and debris with a degreaser
Floors & Walls		
Floors	Daily	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacuum or sweep up hair <input type="checkbox"/> Clean floors with a disinfectant at end of the day <input type="checkbox"/> Wipe down all areas where hair has accumulated
Walls and other areas where animal hair accumulates	Weekly/ monthly	<input type="checkbox"/> Wipe down walls and deep-clean hard to reach places where dirt or debris may accumulate <input type="checkbox"/> Wipe down shelving, shampoo bottles, and other storage areas where hair accumulates with a disinfectant solution