

# LEPTOSPIROSIS

What You Need to Know

## What is leptospirosis?

- A **bacterial** disease of domestic and wild animals and humans.
- Leptospirosis has been documented in all parts of the United States.



## How is it spread?

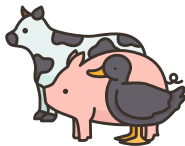
- Spread through the **urine of infected animals**.
- Water, soil, or objects (bowls, pools) become contaminated with urine from infected animals and spread the bacteria.



## What dogs are at risk?

**ALL DOGS ARE AT RISK FOR DISEASE.**

- Any interactions with other dogs, livestock, rodents, or wildlife add **increased risk**.
- **Highest risk:** Dogs that visit boarding facilities, dog parks, hunt, or roam farm land.



## What are symptoms in dogs?

- Inappetence, lethargy, **back pain**, **abdominal pain**, vomiting, or diarrhea.
- **Urinary tract infection** (more frequent urination, bloody urine)
- Severe cases can lead to **kidney or liver failure**.



## Can humans get the disease?

- **Yes.** Humans can become infected with the bacteria in the same ways as dogs.
- **Contact a physician** if you are worried about a human case of leptospirosis.



## How can it be prevented?

**VACCINATE!**



**Recent cases have only been reported in non-vaccinated dogs.**

- Rodent control
- Don't let dogs drink from standing water

