Sanitary practices promote healthy pets. Biosecurity protects the health of companion animals by preventing the transmission of disease.

Biosecurity Basics:

- Animal housing should be cleaned daily or more often as necessary.
- Bowls, dishes and other containers used for feeding and watering animals should be cleaned daily or more often if necessary.
- Sanitary procedures should be maintained between isolated/quarantined animals and animals already on the premises.
- Do not mix groups of animals from different sources.
- Clean and disinfect areas before changing/moving animals.

Important Sanitary Practices:

- Wear clean coveralls or smocks to handle and care for isolated/quarantined animals.
- Care for these animals last.
- Wash hands with an approved sanitizer or disinfectant after handling isolated/quarantined animals.
- Remove dust accumulations, as dust harbors disease particles.
- Ensure proper storage and disposal of animal waste.
- Prevent infestation of animals by external parasites.
- Remember, disinfectants do not penetrate dirty surfaces.

Be sure to clean all items with warm water first. Then use an approved disinfectant.

Transmission of Disease Occurs:

Directly by contact with the animal and animal secretions such as:

- pus
- coughing & sneezing
- feces & urine
- afterbirth
- vomit
- saliva

Or indirectly by contact with:

- soiled bedding
- soiled toys
- dirty hands
- dust in hair
Kennel-Specific Biosecurity

1. Cleaning solution must be mixed daily: one (1) cup bleach to one (1) gallon water.
2. The dog in the kennel must be moved to a cleaned, recently disinfected kennel.
3. The trays, kennel doors and floor grates must come out of the kennels and any waste material washed down the drain. Spray the trays, kennel doors and floor grates with the bleach and water solution; let stand for twenty minutes.
4. Spray the inside of the kennel with the bleach and water solution, including glass, floor, walls and ceiling; let stand for twenty minutes.
5. Water bottles, dishes and towels must be soaked in the bleach and water solution for twenty minutes; allowed to dry completely.
6. After the bleach and water solution has been on the surfaces for twenty minutes, wipe down the inside of the kennel with wet paper towels to remove any and all residue.
7. All materials used to clean the kennel must be disposed of properly.
8. If there are only one or two people cleaning the kennels, the rooms should be cleaned in this order: sale dogs first, holding room second and sick dogs last. After exposure to the sick dogs, there should be no contact by employees with the healthy dogs.
9. Use one (1) gallon milk containers and premix the bleach and water, only mixing the amount that will be used during one day. This will insure that the solution is properly mixed and there will be enough on hand during the day. Each room needs a minimum of three spray bottles containing the premixed solution, along with a 1-cup measure to correctly measure the bleach.
10. Each room needs a step stool to be used specifically in that room, avoiding cross-contamination that would have occurred if the same stool had been used in each of the rooms. Each room also must have its own mop and bucket to be used only in that room.
11. A foot bath for disinfecting feet as employees enter and leave each room should be placed at each door. There should be just enough bleach and water solution in the bath to cover the soles of the shoes. This will prevent the spread of disease through the rooms. Disposable booties must also be worn by anyone entering the kennel area.
12. Face masks and/or goggles should be provided for employees that choose to use them. Face masks may reduce any discomfort caused by the bleach odor.
13. Each room should have a clock and minimally two timers to insure the bleach and water solution is allowed to sit on the surfaces for a minimum of twenty minutes.
14. Spray bottles and industrial strength paper towels should be put in the puppy display areas. After a dog goes back to its cage, the room should be sprayed down and left for twenty minutes before wiping.
15. Brushes being used to scrub grates and trays should be disposable; this will decrease cross contamination significantly.
16. Each store should have many extra water bottles because the rubber stoppers in the bottles need sufficient time to dry after soaking in bleach and water solution.
17. Each store should have:
   - Disposable smocks, booties, masks goggles that fit and brushes;
   - One (1) cup measures for bleach, minimum of one per room;
   - Spray bottles, minimum of three per room, and one for each puppy show room;
   - Step stool for each room;
   - Industrial strength paper towels.