



Guide Dogs for the Blind

Healthy Habits Reminder: Salmonella

Be Safe—Wash Your Hands

As you have heard from previous communications from us, several young puppies on our California campus in San Rafael were diagnosed with Salmonella. These puppies did not show any significant clinical signs of illness except some mild diarrhea. Because the puppies tested positive, they were treated with a prescription of antibiotics.

Salmonellosis is an infection found in dogs caused by the Salmonella bacteria. Its main symptom in dogs is gastroenteritis (diarrhea) but it can also be a factor in causing mastitis, which affects nursing broods. This bacterial disease is zoonotic, meaning it can be transmitted to humans. Since this bacteria can be found in the feces of puppies, we wanted to remind you of the best way to prevent zoonotic spread—which is to pick up after the puppy promptly and to wash your hands before eating or drinking.

If diarrhea returns, please seek veterinary attention. Feel free to let your local veterinarian know the puppy was diagnosed with diarrhea via a PCR test and was treated appropriately. There is no need for special diagnostics at this point and they can follow their normal diarrhea treatment protocols.