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## Press Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Canine Influenza Virus: Pet Owners Urged to be Aware

**Sutter Creek, CA** – Amador County Animal Control and Amador County Public Health are conducting a joint investigation of a confirmed case of canine influenza virus in a local dog following multiple reports of respiratory illness in dogs over the last week.

Due to the extremely contagious nature of the canine influenza virus, all dogs are at serious risk of infection when exposed. Like human flu, dog flu is most dangerous to puppies, seniors, and dogs who are already sick. Canine influenza viruses pose a low threat to people. Per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), there has been no evidence of spread of canine influenza viruses from dogs to people, nor a single reported case of human infection with a canine influenza virus in the U.S. or worldwide.

Pet owners should contact their veterinarian immediately if they see any of the following symptoms in their dog(s): persistent hacking cough, lethargic behavior, poor appetite, nasal discharge, trouble breathing, or fever. Sick dogs should be isolated from other animals. Vaccines to protect against canine flu are available. Your veterinarian can provide more information about these vaccines and whether you should consider vaccinating your dog.

Due to the high risk of canine influenza virus spreading from dog to dog, pet owners should exercise caution and avoid allowing their dogs to either socialize with other dogs or participate in any group dog training activities. Since even dogs exhibiting no signs of illness can be contagious asymptomatic carriers, pet owners are also advised not to board their dogs at kennels and to avoid pet day care facilities, dog parks, and grooming facilities until the outbreak runs its course. Prior to resuming group activities discuss infection control policies with these types of facility owners.

For more information on canine influenza virus visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/other/canine-flu/keyfacts.html>