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NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

The Humane Society of North Texas Is Taking Precautions to Prevent Possible Spread of Canine Influenza at Its Fort Worth Shelter

Fort Worth, Texas, March 3rd, 2023 – The Humane Society of North Texas (HSNT) has become aware that dogs recently housed in its Lancaster Avenue shelter have tested positive for canine influenza virus (dog flu). At this time, there are only three confirmed cases at the Fort Worth shelter. However, out of an abundance of caution, HSNT will be closing dog intake at the Lancaster Avenue location for the next three weeks in order to medically supervise and take care of the dogs at the site. This closure also affects dog adoptions from the **Saxe-Forte (Fort Worth)** location. HSNT will be testing all dogs showing signs of upper respiratory illness for canine influenza.

Canine influenza is a highly contagious respiratory disease in dogs caused by specific Type A influenza viruses known to infect dogs. Many shelters in the DFW area have announced that pets in their care have contracted the virus. The signs of illness in dogs are cough, runny nose, fever, lethargy, eye discharge and reduced appetite, but not all dogs will show signs of illness. Most dogs recover within three weeks.

HSNT will continue with dog adoptions at satellite locations that have not been exposed to the virus. The locations that have no reported canine influenza cases are Benbrook Waggin' Tails, Keller Regional, Hurst Adoption Center, and Kaufman County Pet Adoption Center. These locations will continue with dog, cat, and small animal adoptions. HSNT will also continue to adopt cats at the Saxe-Forte location and the PetSmart Ridgmar, PetSmart Montgomery Plaza, PetSmart Bryant Irvin, and PetSmart Lake Worth locations. Scheduled offsite adoption events at local PetSmart and Petco stores will continue with pets coming either directly from foster homes or from locations with no virus exposure. Additionally, HSNT's Clinic will remain open to the public as it is located in a separate building with separate staff, and has no interaction with HSNT's shelter dogs.

HSNT strongly encourages the public to ensure new pets are initially separated from existing pets in the household for approximately seven to ten days. Please contact HSNT at 817-332-4768 or your local veterinarian if you have any questions concerning this message.

Resources:

[American Veterinary Medical Association](#)
[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

About the Humane Society of North Texas

Since 1905, the Humane Society of North Texas (HSNT) has worked to eliminate animal cruelty, promote humane values and end animal homelessness in North Texas. As an independent nonprofit organization, HSNT relies on the generosity of the public to help ensure there is a safe place for abused, injured, and homeless animals in the community. To make a

lifesaving donation, please visit hsnt.org/donate or [Facebook](#). To learn more about HSNT, [visit hsnt.org](https://hsnt.org), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [TikTok](#).

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