

## **FECAL TEST INFORMATION**

### **(EXAMPLE)**

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If you received this document then your new pet had their stool tested by the Rushville Animal Shelter. Please review this document so you are fully informed.

1. Per our standard protocol cats and dogs may have their stool tested due to symptoms of illness to rule out possible causes.
2. We perform fecal float tests which are commonly used to initially rule in or out parasites. However, this type of fecal test is not 100% accurate. Failure can occur due to missing a window of opportunity for fecal samples to show parasites or human error in collecting the sample, setting up the sample, and reading the sample. Although the test we performed may result in a negative reading, this does not mean the animal is actually negative. In many cases several fecal float tests or other types of fecal tests must be performed to determine a true negative result.
3. It is recommended that adopters have their new pets examined by a veterinarian within a couple of weeks of adoption and follow their recommendation on if additional fecal tests need performed.
4. If your new pet is showing signs of diarrhea or other illness, please see a veterinarian for proper care in a timely manner. Many causes of diarrhea or illness can be treated and cured if a veterinarian is seen quickly. Failure to seek out veterinarian care can result in an agonizing death of your new pet.
5. Common parasites seen in animals who enter the Rushville Animal Shelter are Roundworms, Hookworms, Tapeworms, Whipworms, Coccidia, and Giardia. Our basic dewormers we use for all animals is Panacur and Pyrantel. Although effective in the treatment of Roundworms, Hookworms, and Whipworms it only sometimes treats Tapeworms and is useless against Coccidia and Giardia. Due to the nature of our organization where we have thousands of animals enter our shelter with no or unknown medical history and incubation periods ranging from 10 to 14 days before symptoms present we are unable to guarantee that your new pet does not have any parasites at the time of adoption.
6. Parasites are spread from animal to animal and some cases animal to human typically through feces. Timely treatment and preventative measures are the best in stopping the spread of parasites.
7. The best way to prevent parasites is to have your pet seen by a veterinarian at least yearly for a wellness exam, maintain your pet on a parasite preventative, have your pet seen by a veterinarian anytime your pet experiences symptoms of illness, and practicing good animal hygiene.