

# The Kennel-9



## Nine things to consider before you board your pet

### 1 SEE FOR YOURSELF

Can you see the kennels and common areas where your animal will be boarded? During your pet's stay, can you check on them remotely via webcam?

### 2 SOUND THE ALARM

Does the facility have a written emergency response procedure in the event of fire, power outage, or other disaster? Does the kennel have working fire and carbon monoxide detectors, sprinkler systems, and a back-up power generator?

### 3 LICENSE, PLEASE

Does the kennel have a current operating license issued by a local city or town? According to the license, how many animals can be boarded at one time? How many animals are currently housed?

### 4 IN CASE OF A MEDICAL EMERGENCY

Are you contacted if your animal experiences an unexpected medical condition or injury? Is there a veterinarian on staff, or does the facility have a veterinarian on call? Do you sign a waiver giving permission to have your animal treated?

### 5 TLC

What is the ratio of staff to animals? Is there 24-hour on-site supervision? If not, are animals monitored by video camera? What training or experience does the staff caring for animals have?

### 6 SOCIAL CIRCLE

Do dogs play together in common areas? Are these play groups supervised at all times? Are dogs grouped together by size and/or temperament? Can you choose to have your dog not participate in group activities?

### 7 INFECTION PRECAUTIONS

Does the facility require up-to-date vaccination records for all boarders? What documentation is required for your pet to be admitted?

### 8 FELINE FRIENDS

Does the facility allow cats? Are they separated from the sight and noise of dogs?

### 9 GET IT IN WRITING

Will the facility give you written documentation of their procedures or confirmation of any special requests for your pet?

**ANIMAL  
RESCUE  
LEAGUE  
of BOSTON**



Currently there are no state-wide regulations that govern boarding kennels and animal daycare facilities in Massachusetts. ARL and other animal welfare organizations are advocating for standards that would mandate the creation of new state laws to protect pets.

Learn more at [www.arlboston.org/Kennel-9](http://www.arlboston.org/Kennel-9)