

BOARD SAFELY™ CHECKLIST

Facility name _____

Date of call/email _____

Spoke with (Name) _____

(Title) _____

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?

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?

The Animal Rescue League of Boston's Board Safely™ campaign encourages pet owners to do their research before leaving their dog or cat in the care of a boarding kennel or daycare facility. When calling or emailing potential facilities, be sure to ask all of the questions on this list and take notes!

MY NOTES