

Parvo kills dogs

Parvo is a virus that affects dogs. It does not make people sick. Parvo is especially dangerous to puppies under six months old and unvaccinated dogs.

Parvo is spread by dogs in their feces (poop) and by dog to dog contact. Parvo can live on the ground outside for at least a year. It can survive heat, cold, and dryness. Places that can harbor parvo include parks (especially dog parks), public streets and sidewalks, pet stores and other places many dogs go.

It is not safe to take puppies or unvaccinated dogs into these places. If your dog has not received its vaccinations (shots), do not take it to places other dogs go. Puppies need several vaccinations before it is safe for them to go to these places. Do not take a puppy to these places until it is at least six months old and has received all its shots.

Parvo symptoms include lethargy (tiredness), loss of appetite, vomiting, and bloody diarrhea. Most dogs and puppies who get parvo will die within three days without treatment at a vet's office. Even with treatment at the vet, many dogs die. Treatment for parvo is very expensive. It is much less expensive to vaccinate your dog!

For more information on parvo, you can visit <http://www.asPCA.org/pet-care/dog-care/dog-care-parvovirus>.