

Rainmaker Ranch Labradoodles HEALTH GUARANTEE

Vaccination Schedule and Initial Vaccines

There are many, many diseases that affect dogs. Some are contagious, and some are inherited. A proper vaccination program can greatly reduce the chances of your puppy becoming ill with most of the deadlier viruses. A complete vaccination/medical history will accompany the puppy/dog at the time of sale. Another very good way to help protect your puppy is just common sense; do not expose it to these diseases. Call your vet prior to bringing your puppy to the office, and ask if there are any canines on site with Parvo virus, Coronavirus or Distemper. If so, reschedule your appointment. If your puppy is under 16 weeks of age, ask for the first appointment of the day, when everything has been cleaned and disinfected the night before. Do not put your puppy on the floor or allow your puppy to encounter any other pets in the office. Do not allow it to walk in the area which everyone's dogs use as a toilet. Do not take it to pet shops at this young age, either. The puppy being purchased is guaranteed to be current on its DA2PL+CPV and Bordetella vaccinations, and to have passed a veterinarian's examination. Buyer will be provided with a copy of the health certificate. Buyer understands that the puppy will need boosters of the initial vaccinations, generally spaced three weeks apart, until the DA2PL+CPV "puppy series" is completed, and then once annually thereafter. Please note that while physicals and well visits are suggested, we recommend **titer testing** to prevent over vaccinating your dog.

Initial that you have read and understand this section on vaccines and titer testing _____

GENERAL HEALTH GUARANTEE

Initial Vet Visit and Health at Pick up

As stated, you will receive a vet healthy puppy report including shot record with your new puppy & a **two-year health** guarantee of no PRA prcd, VonWilabrandts, Elbow, Thyroid, & patella disorders.

The puppy/dog must be taken to a licensed veterinarian within 2 days (48) hours (excluding Saturday and Sunday) of purchase. This is a requirement of sale and guarantee. This visit is to ensure you that the puppy was delivered healthy and to ensure us that you are on track to veterinary care and have seen, in person, a veterinarian. Rainmaker Ranch Labradoodles (RRL) partner guarantees this puppy/dog to be free of Parvo, Distemper, Coronavirus, Parainfluenza and Adenovirus Type II for a period of 1 week from the puppy's last vaccination date and for a period of seven (7) days from date of sale.

If deemed to be unhealthy, unfit or unsound in any way (genetic condition or prior to pick up health issue), the puppy/dog will be replaced by another puppy/dog of comparable value OR RRL will pay directly to the attending veterinarian for treatment of the puppy up to \$2000 (or the price of the puppy whichever lower) if the issue is genetic or a prior to pick up condition as described in this document. (RRL reserves the right to postpone the replacement of a puppy/dog for any reason but will try to replace asap) OR RRL will refund upon return of the puppy the full purchase price of the puppy. In this case RRL will arrange for return of the puppy which may require veterinary care prior to return at RRL expense. IF the buyer wishes to return the puppy the following applies. The puppy/dog must be returned within seventy-two (72) hours of purchase (excluding Saturday and Sunday IF shipping is required) and must be accompanied by all paperwork supplied by RRL at the time of sale, and a written statement from the licensed veterinarian clearly stating defect or illness. Sick puppies/dogs may not be returned to RRL's home; therefore, two things may happen. One, if the puppy is suitable to travel, it is the responsibility of the purchaser to contact RRL to arrange another place to meet. (This is to prevent healthy puppies/dogs at RRL from becoming ill.) RRL would never knowingly sell a sick puppy/dog and the purchaser understands and agrees that RRL could not have been aware of any illness or defect unable to be detected by a licensed veterinarian (which RRL will have visited 2-3 days prior to pick up). Two, RRL may have the attending veterinarian treat the puppy until

healthy and able to be returned to RRL. In this case, RRL will pay for treatment then arrange for the puppies return; upon return either a replacement puppy or full refund will be provided. In any of the three cases (refund, treatment, or exchange) RRL will provide written documentation as the course of action to the buyer immediately following any email, telephone or voicemail conversations. Non-Emergencies: If a puppy/dog is found to have a genetic or prior to pick up health problem at its initial veterinarian visit and it is NOT considered an emergency and the purchaser opts to treat this puppy/dog instead of exchanging it for another puppy/dog, RRL is not responsible for any expenses incurred or for the death of the puppy/dog, as RRL was not contacted as to the issue and offered the opportunity for RRL's veterinarian to discuss treatment with the attending veterinarian. In this case, it is up to the buyer to send RRL a copy of the receipt of the visit and medical treatment (for the genetic or prior to pick up condition) and it is RRL's choice as to offer a refund of treatment. Emergencies: If the puppy at any time is considered ill, please address this as an emergency, call a veterinarian immediately. If your veterinarian is not open, contact a 24-hour veterinarian in your area. Determine with the Veterinarian if the situation is an actual emergency and get the puppy the care that is required! RRL will cover emergency care (for genetic conditions or prior to pick up health issue) up to \$2000 (or the price of the puppy whichever is lower) paid directly to the attending veterinarian at the time of care via credit card. Please contact Rainmaker Ranch Labradoodles as soon as possible AFTER getting the puppy to the veterinarian. Our first focus is the puppy.

****RRL has taken all reasonable care to ensure that all pups produced are as healthy as possible. However, cancers, foreign body ingestion, behavioral issues, accidents, ear infections and UTIs are considered normal costs and risks of pet ownership and purchaser is advised to discuss risk reduction strategies with their Veterinarian and to acquire private pet insurance for such as the breeder offers no warranty or guarantee of any kind for non-genetic issues not specifically listed in this paragraph.**

*****RRL's health, hip and genetic guarantee does not apply if any injury, illness, disease or fatality develops as a direct result of the dog being overweight or malnourished, including but not limited to hip dysphasia (see hip guarantee), heart disease, joint problems, etc.**

Initial to indicate you have read and understand this section of the health warrantee _____

HIP GUARANTEE

This hip guarantee applies only to those puppies/dogs bred by Rainmaker Ranch Labradoodles and only to the original purchaser. If the original purchaser contacts RRL as to the rehome of a puppy and RRL is given all the information of the second home/family, this guarantee follows the puppy. Seller does hereby guarantee this puppy/dog to have acceptable hip joint conformation as determined by the OFA. If this puppy's/dog's hips are rejected for OFA certification between two (2) and three (3) years of age, seller will replace this puppy/dog with another puppy of comparable value from our next available litter. (OFA results that are considered rejections are: Mild, Moderate or Severe CHD.) OFA is a standard as which to determine extent of hip dysphasia. The genetic guarantee covers Leggs Perthes disease for 3 years with documentation of condition by OFA radiologist. Replacement puppy will be of the same breed, sex and color as the original puppy/dog unless otherwise agreed to by both parties. If a replacement puppy is not the choice of the buyer, RRL offers payment up to the purchase price of the puppy or \$2000 whichever is less paid directly to the attending veterinarian for treatment of the condition or surgery for the condition. Replacement puppy will be provided between eight (8) and sixteen (16) weeks of age. Seller is bound by this guarantee if and only if the following conditions are met:

1. Seller must be notified of OFA rejection within thirty (30) days of its postmark.
2. OFA rejection and a written statement from a licensed veterinarian who took the x-rays must accompany the request.
3. Original puppy/dog must not ever have been hit by a vehicle or suffered any other physical trauma capable of causing lameness of any type, for any duration. Any such trauma will render this guarantee null and void. Any condition of obesity or malnourishment for any duration will render this guarantee null and void.

4. Any returned animal must be accompanied by all paperwork supplied by RRL at the time of sale, as well as a written statement from a licensed veterinarian indicating the following:
 - a. All shots are and have been kept current.
 - b. Puppy/dog has had a negative fecal within thirty (30) days.
 - c. Puppy/dog has had a negative heartworm test within thirty (30) days and has been kept on heartworm preventive.
 - d. Puppy/dog appears to be healthy and well cared for.
5. Any replacement puppy may not have both the same parents as the original.

Please initial that you understand the RRL Hip guarantee _____

GENETIC HEALTH GUARANTEE

Genetic Issues

This guarantee applies only to dogs/puppies bred by Rainmaker Ranch Labradoodles, and only to the original purchaser of the dog/puppy. If the original purchaser contacts RRL as to the rehome of a puppy and RRL is given all the information of the second home/family, this guarantee follows the puppy. Seller does hereby guarantee this puppy/dog to be free of any verifiably inherited conditions that are detrimental to the puppy's/dog's health. If this puppy/dog dies or is severely crippled from a documented inherited condition, prior to two (2) years of age, RRL will replace the puppy/dog with one of comparable value. If a replacement puppy is not the choice of the buyer, RRL offers payment up to the purchase price of the puppy or \$2000 whichever is less paid directly to the attending veterinarian for treatment of the condition or surgery for the condition.

Seller is bound by this guarantee if and only if the following conditions are met.

1. Seller (RRL partner specific to your litter) must be notified within thirty (30) days of diagnosis of condition or death of puppy/dog.
2. If deceased, request MUST be accompanied by a necropsy report if the puppy/dog is deceased, and absolute, verifiable diagnosis of the inherited condition in either case, including but not limited to, a statement from a licensed veterinarian and copies of relevant lab reports or DNA tests. (It is the responsibility of the purchaser to document a genetic disorder). An educated guess as to the condition by the vet of record is not acceptable, a necropsy report is required.
3. Once a condition is documented, the original puppy/dog may be kept by the purchaser or returned to RRL at the option of the purchaser. Returned animals must be accompanied by all paperwork supplied at the time of sale.

Please initial that you understand the genetic conditions section of the agreement _____

BASIC CARE AGREEMENT

Puppy Well Being

This agreement is a "condition of sale" and applies to all our dogs and puppies bred Rainmaker Ranch Labradoodle. It is included for providing for the puppy's/dog's continued health and well-being. Violation of this agreement invalidates all other guarantees. Purchaser does hereby agree to take good and reasonable care of this puppy/dog, including but not limited to the following:

1. Purchaser must provide all required vaccinations (or titer testing to ensure coverage) from the time of purchase as recommended by the purchaser's veterinarian, and annually thereafter unless otherwise recommended by purchaser's veterinarian.
2. **Purchaser must never give the dog internal pesticides/insecticides, this includes but is not limited to triflexis, bravecto, and comfortis.** ONLY external flea and tick meds (topical applied to the neck or

powders) may be used. Giving any internal pesticides will void this warrantee. Typical side effects of internal pesticides (pills to kill fleas or ticks) include, fever, vomiting, diarrhea, anorexia, seizures, muscle tremors, hyper salivation, kidney damage/ malfunction/ failure, congestive heart failure, fatigue, stomach ulcers, death.

Initial to indicate you agree to never use pill forms of flea and tick treatment regardless of a vet stating they are assumed safe. You have alternatives, any topical or powder can be used safely. _____

3. Rabies shots must be provided as recommended by purchaser's veterinarian and/or required by law.
4. Any parasites, internal or external, must be promptly eliminated. **Again, please note: using COMFORTIS OR TRIFECTIS FLEA & TICK (or like internal insecticides) products will void this warranty as these products have been associated with health issues and deaths.**
5. Puppy/dog must be started on heartworm preventative as soon as purchaser's veterinarian feels is appropriate. This would be standard Heartguard.
6. Clean, fresh water and proper food, in sufficient amounts must be provided.
7. Puppy/dog may not be allowed out, unattended, unless within a secure enclosure.
8. ALL Puppies/dogs are sold on spay/neuter agreements and may NOT be bred and should be spayed/neutered within 7 months.

Initial to indicate you agree to spay/neuter your dog and understand this is a legally binding requirement in purchasing a RRL pet. _____

9. Puppy cannot be sold or given to a third party without consent of Rainmaker Ranch Labradoodles and never given or sold to a breeder, puppy store, research facility or puppy mill.
10. Buyer agrees that if at any time the buyer wishes to destroy or give away the dog, buyer will give RRL every opportunity to help in rehoming the dog, which must not be destroyed, or relinquished to a pound or shelter. Note, this does not include a refund of funds or selling the dog for an owner. RRL will provide rehome *assistance*, we will try to help the owner find a new family, if they cannot care for their dog. We will reach out to rescue and foster organizations and send the Buyer links to fill out and send in to the organization. Buyer is responsible for training, a behaviorist and evaluation as needed. Some rehomes are easy whereas buyer would arrange shipping or delivery to a new family, others are more difficult whereas training and evaluation is necessary prior to placement. We are here to help in getting you the contacts you need. We act as a communication bridge to get the dog to a suitable family.

*Please note that the General, Hip and Genetic Guarantees have end dates. These dates will be when the contract is void.

The Basic Care Agreement DOES NOT have an end date and is valid for the lifetime of the dog!

IF any health issues arise as stated in our warrantee for the well-being of the dog please seek Puppy First Treatment. Take the puppy to the vet or the emergency room ASAP, and get the puppy care and treatment. Call us once the puppy is getting treatment. Our process is to get your vet and our vet talking to determine the best action for the puppy and proceed. We are not experts in puppy health and leave that to your vet and ours to work together to get the puppy healthy and back to the family. In a nut shell this is how the warrantee works: If the puppy arrives with a health-related issue we will offer to take the puppy back, it is your choice to keep the puppy or return the puppy for another puppy in the next litter possible. We do not ever want a puppy to go to a family who does not want the puppy for whatever reason. This is not an indication or agreement of the health condition, as that has not been verified as required, this is just our practice in the best interest of all parties.

If you opt to keep the puppy, then you are agreeing to work with the puppy and accept the health issue as determined by and documented by a veterinary specialist(s). We all understand the Internet can be a valuable tool, but we need to work with what is documented by the vet specialist(s) not what it could be or may be later. We need to work in the present at the time as documented (what the issue is and what is the current recommended course of action). RRL (the partner who bred and whelped the puppy) is agreeing to cover the cost of the issue up to the warrantee value as outlined in the warrantee within the written requirements. This means we will reimburse the cost to verify the perceived genetic issue if this is warranted and well documented by a specialist in the condition. For example, if your vet thinks your dog may have HD, you would then take the dog to a canine orthopedic specialist to verify the path of action, this specialist consult is required. IF they determine and document they believe the issue is HD then they would perform an OFA x-ray. In this case, we would pay for the x-ray and OFA reading. Again, this is not an indication or agreement that the issue is present; this is an agreement that there is evidence that the test should be performed.

At this point the specialist must agree on two conditions. One, document to RRL directly that this is without exception a genetic condition. Note, some issues can be or may be genetic conditions and can also be environmental conditions, these are important distinctions. Two, they must document in writing directly to RRL (the breeder partner) that the condition currently presents as a detriment to the life of the dog. Detrimental would be painful and/or inhibits to the extent of life threatening walking, eating, sleeping, it is not cosmetic. For example, again, HD (which has never occurred and is just an example to aid in understanding) can be mild, moderate or severe as defined by OFA. If mild the course of action may be to monitor the condition (which again we agree to cover within the specialist documented recommended course of action), provide suggested supplements (which is the responsibility of the owner) and within the life time of the pet it may never be detrimental to their life. If the condition is moderate it may or may not be detrimental to their life. If this is the case, again we agree to cover within the specialist documented recommended course of action monitoring of the condition and at some point, in the future we may need to cover up to the warrantee a portion of the cost for surgery. However, things can remain constant, get worst or better. We cannot agree in the present on a cost for future actions. This is because, no actions have been determined as required, and advances in medicine may change that action. Please know we will be here to aid in the documented monitoring of a condition and we will be here if a condition progresses and a future course of action has been documented. We will cover up to the warrantee as determined and documented as both genetic and detrimental to the life of the dog.

I will try (note I am not a vet) and give examples in which case I may see or not see a specialist documenting detrimental and genetic,

- A painful tooth may be documented as in need to be pulled and the cost may be covered, having an implant to replace the tooth would not be covered.
- A low-grade elbow dysplasia may be annoying but is not detrimental to life; a high-grade elbow dysplasia may be documented as detrimental to life and genetic.
- Eye issues (especially senior conditions) may be annoying as is being slightly nearsighted or farsighted as a human but not documented as detrimental to life and environmental or genetic.
- Addison's is a probable genetic condition, however with daily medication makes this condition not detrimental to life.
- Fatty tumors (non-cancer) are not genetic and not detrimental to life
- Allergies are considered environmental and genetic, but with a special diet are not detrimental to life.

Regardless, all payments are made directly to the vet performing the surgery or test at the time of the operation or test. IF a test must be done in an emergency we will reimburse you once we get the documentation as detailed above from the vet directly. There are many times we have our vet call your vet and discuss an issue, determine action and tell us the course of action. This is our preference as it is a much faster and direct course of action.

Please look up the emergency 24-hour veterinarian in your area and write down the number in your phone book

Please Initial that you understand and agree with the puppy well-being section of the agreement: _____

Socialization and Training

Please understand that although the Australian Labradoodle is in general an easy to train, laid back loving dog, this is contingent on training and socialization.

I must state one of the biggest issues that results in behavioral problems in dogs is lack of socialization. Dogs cannot talk or understand our language. This may be a surprise to most. Think of your puppy as a child that cannot speak, understand unique directions, understand cause and effect (versus event and effect) or hear. Most of the time you are trying to communicate to your dog the consequences of actions and trying to reassure them that previous events were not caused by the actions they may think caused them.

As a professor, I find it best to give examples. For example: Your dog is on a walk with you. You see a friend wearing a baseball hat or sunglasses walking towards you with their dog and at the same time a car goes by at a high speed, the radio blaring. You are surprised, step back and step on the dog's foot. The dog can think anything of course, but most likely if this is the one and only time they have been on this walk, they might think any of the following:

- They associate a car with a loud noise, you scared and them being hurt.
- They associate the friend (or someone in a hat, or someone wearing sunglasses) with a car, noise, fear and being stepped on.
- They associate the walk with a fearful event.
- They associate the dog with your friend as something to be worried about.

These thoughts and more are possible. The only way to really "tell" your dog that none of these are true is for them to have experienced all the events mentioned above more than 2 or 3 times and having none of the resulting events take place. IF they have walked down that street 10 times, seen cars, seen friends, seen other dogs, experienced loud noises and all those times nothing negative happened they will either stop associating the event and the effect or never start associating these events with these negative effects.

Your job as a dog parent is to socialize, to cause as many events as possible to happen and for them to associate all these events with happy times.

I tell my puppy families their job is to have their dog meet 100 people and experience 100 events in the first 60 days' home and then continue this for the first year at the very least.

Proper socialization needs to occur early in life and throughout the first year at a high frequency. We should never expect a dog to comprehend human concepts. However, just because your dog is older, this does not mean that you cannot start to socialize them now and see positive results. Many dogs can change their behaviors if you take the time to socialize later in life and the results will help them function normally. The only problem is changing set behaviors is harder than setting the correct behaviors to begin with. This does not mean it is not possible, just that it takes more time and effort on your part.

Allowing your puppy to play with your other dog or your kids and your kids friends in your home is not socialization.

You will need to take your dog out to appropriate events, activities, and environments. It may interfere with your schedule and take time, but the rewards are tremendous. Proper socialization entails your dog interacting with other dogs and people outside of your family and outside of your home. Proper socialization is not a free for all. It is structured planned events that you believe will be positive and rewarding for the dog. Letting your dog loose at the dog park to get bullied or to bully other dogs is not positive and rewarding. This means a positive social interaction in which you teach your dog proper behaviors, reward them (bring treats). If your dog is a little shy or reserved, you reward it when it has a positive interaction with another dog or human.

For example, my dog disliked the cable guy. I have no idea why; but she just did not like him. When he arrived, she barked, retreated and eventually ran into the other room. I could have yelled at her to stop barking, I could have put her in a room alone while he was there. But what I did was go get the treat box and walked around with the cable guy and gave her treats as she followed me and behaved. I did tell the cable guy what I was doing. Before he left he asked to give her a treat and I suggested he take one and toss it to her this time, which he did. She never had an issue with him again. She also eagerly was interested in anyone invited into the house. You can use treats, praise, and petting. This also means that if your dog reacts inappropriately (i.e. lunges at passing pedestrian), you ought to correct that behavior. If needed see a professional trainer for assistance.

What happens when you don't properly socialize a dog:

Extreme Fear and Shyness, Fearful and aggressive body language, Avoidance of people, including fleeing and intense responses such running into objects during escape attempts, Frequent and/or intense startle response

- Now this may happen, as I mentioned earlier, when an event occurred and being an isolated event has been associated with something. For example. Your dog does not like men, why? The dog barked, a man yelled at them, and put them in a room alone. This possibly lead the dog to believe, this man is scary, and in fact all men may be scary. I must run away and be put in a safe place. And in fact, every time a man comes over they retreat and nothing bad happens. Well that, to a dog may mean their retreat is why nothing bad happened. Can you see where without understanding, they are associating. For another example, your husband discovered your teen did something, worthy of being yelled at. Your husband yelled (men tend to have deep loud voices), the dog backed up, turned fast and hit his head on the corner of the door. The dog at that point decided, men yell, and I get hurt, therefore men are scary. Another example: You are upset, you yell at someone or something. The dog associates you with yelling and anger. If you are the one who always yells, disciplines the kids, the dog may fear you. Not because you did anything to them, just because you have done something, and it was not a happy event. The best thing you can do is go about your life of course, but notice, the dog is watching me and may be associating that they are in trouble (when in fact they are not), so after your teen stomps to their room and slams their door, look at the dog and say, you are not in trouble, you are a good dog, let's get a treat. And get them a treat. They will learn, you may get mad and may yell, but if you are not looking at them, you are nothing to be afraid of and in fact they may get a treat. Do you see how without language and a general understanding of cause and effect they can think anything? Without socialization, lots of events occurring where positive things happen, they have no other events to draw on and jump to conclusions.

Lack of Social Behavior, Total disengagement from interactions that include freezing and may appear catatonic, Fear in any new situation or environment, including fear of novel objects and surfaces

- Without being in a situation where they behaved and are rewarded, they truly don't understand how to behave. A dog jumps up every time someone comes over, so you put them in a room when a guest comes. Well this is a lost opportunity. If as a puppy, they met 10 people at the door, each time they were asked to sit and were rewarded. They then know how to behave, what is expected. Without socialization, they really have no idea what to do. Having another dog to watch or having them visit another dog that does behave

helps with learning social behavior. Both things must happen, they cannot only be with their other family dog, they need to see other dogs in action, be told what is correct with rewards and learn the lesson.

Aggression, Fear aggression, directed at humans or other dogs

- This can stem from several events that have occurred or not occurred (they have never been in the situation to know what will happen or how to respond). Dogs may not understand how to interact with other dogs or kids. They may feel threatened when other dogs only want to play. They may feel off balance when a child reacts in a way they have never seen before, for example yelling, crying or running about. This typically leads to fear which can in turn lead to growling, snapping and even biting. IF necessary, contact a professional trainer for help.

A well socialized dog will:

- Have a friendly relaxed body language
- Approach others and other animals even those unknown to them
- Eat or drink in the presence of people
- Have normal maintenance behaviors such as resting, grooming and investigating the environment in the presence of people

Initial that you understand you must socialize (outside of your home) your dog and provide training: _____

Trainer

Rainmaker Ranch Labradoodles offers transport to a trainer. We have a trainer(s) we have prescreened in each location. IF you have selected this option, we offer transport to the trainer at 8 weeks. Please take note, Rainmaker Ranch Labradoodles is not associated with the trainer except to offer transportation to and the recommendation of the trainer. We have used these trainers for years and have always heard glowing feedback from the families using them plus we have used them ourselves with our own dogs. We believe you and your dog are in excellent hands. Once we deliver the puppy to the trainers' home, you are under the trainers' contract and you are the legal owner of the dog. Those selecting the training option, note that you will be taking the puppy to the vet within 3 days of your pick up at the trainer after the training period. IF there is a health issue at the trainer that is our responsibility under this warrantee we cover the vet visit and treatment.

Spay/ Neuter Policy

You will have your own vet do the surgery at our expense up to \$150 over the weeks at home. You will need to schedule the surgery at your first vet visit. You will need to then notify us within a week as to the date you have selected. We will pay directly to the vet and will call the day of the surgery to prepay. Purchasing a puppy from us is agreement to the spay/neuter policy, no exceptions. You have already agreed to this policy as you have purchased a pet puppy, not a breeding dog under our program.

Rainmaker Ranch Labradoodles provides our puppies as companion/pets not for breeding, unless otherwise specified in writing prior to adoption.

We as responsible breeders feel required to spay and neuter all our puppies not specifically selected and health tested for breeding AND to educate ourselves and our families as to why and when to spay and neuter based on current research and evidence.

Early Spay Neuter (prior to 6 months) is considered the most appropriate situation for a puppy based on health and temperament studies. We consider experts in the field of Spay Neuter are the leading animal surgeons and researchers in the US, specifically the Vet School at Ohio State University (Google OSU canine spay neuter),

Cornell Vet School (google Cornell Canine Spay neuter) and UC Davis Vet and Research Committees (google UC Davis Canine Spay neuter). We used to provide direct links however they change the links often. There are many specific reasons to early spay neuter which this article and those associations will address. Although all agree that early spay and neuter (between the age of 8 weeks/2 months and 24 weeks/6 months) is the best answer for the dog and the family, canine spay, and neuter surgery is not a cut and dried issue and there is disagreement between the experts as to the best time to early or spay neuter.

Benefits of Early Spaying / Neutering:

- Prevents unwanted pregnancy and complications arising from pregnancy and delivering in a female
- Prevents the heat cycle of the female that usually occurs every eight months and last approximately 21 days
- In males, reduces the urge to roam, making it less likely your pet will contract a disease, get in a fight, or become a victim of cruelty, poison or traffic
- Reduces or eliminates dominance behaviors in males.
- Eliminates testicular tumors and reduces prostate gland problems in males
- If done early enough, will most likely prevent a male from marking behaviors (urinate in the house).
- Reduces guarding, anxiety and dominance behaviors in males and females
- Reduces unwanted litters, therefore reducing needless euthanasia in our shelters
- Reduces or eliminates the possibility of disease in the reproductive system, a leading cause of death is non-neutered or spayed dogs.
- Recovery due to surgery prior to 4 months of age is almost immediate
- It avoids reproductive-related problems such as tumors, pyometra, false pregnancy, prostate infections, and many old-age cancers

Some research indicates that the health and temperament benefits of sterilization proposed by so many studies may be offset by the drawbacks if the surgery is done *too* early. Owners should be aware of potential problems that can occur as a direct result of the surgery timing.

- One study found although spaying reduces the incidence of reproductive system cancers and uterine infections, females spayed before 7 weeks have a slightly higher risk of developing other types of cancer, joint problems, and thyroid disease. This suggested waiting until the **female is 4 to 6 months** of age for spaying surgery.
- Some experts are cautious as to any possible negative implications to removing natural hormones before 4 months of age for males (the usual age of a male dog entering the first stages of puberty) suggesting **4-6 months as the most appropriate for male dogs.**

All experts agree there is **no** need to wait for a female to have her first heat cycle before she is spayed. In fact, you can avoid the problems associated with estrus by spaying her before it occurs. There is also **no** need to wait for the male to become sexually mature. If I were you I would request my vet do the surgery at 4 months of age and be firm on that plan.

Since you are purchasing a puppy as “pet only”, we are required to ensure your puppy is spayed/neutered. **By purchasing a puppy from us you AGREE to this agreement. We NEVER sell breeding dogs.**

As for timing it is your choice, we ask that you contact your vet and ask what they prefer. You can then just drop us a note. If the vet advises you to wait until 3 to 5 months of age just send us their name and number plus the time and date you have just scheduled for surgery. Please notify them we will be calling to prepay for the surgery.

If you want to wait we will ask you to sign this agreement but know you have already agreed to this requirement regardless of a signature or not.

By purchasing a puppy from us you AGREE to this agreement. We NEVER sell breeding dogs.

By my purchase, I agree to have this dog spayed/neutered by my vet of record no later than 24 weeks (6 months of age). I understand that this spay/neuter agreement is an agreement that this dog will not produce a litter of puppies either as purposely bred or by accidental breeding.

Rainmaker Ranch Labradoodles has determined the puppy from this litter shall not be sold with reproduction rights. The Buyer acknowledges understanding that this puppy must be altered. It is understood by all parties that said puppy is being sold as a "companion" puppy/ dog and will not be allowed to reproduce at any time in the future.

Buyer understands that if the dog is not spayed or neutered before 24 weeks the cost of purchasing a breeding dog from Rainmaker Ranch is an additional \$6,500 and is not negotiable.

Both parties, Buyer and Seller, agree that this spay/ neuter contract constitutes final notice of the spay/ neuter requirement and no further notice is required to institute legal action for violation of the terms of this contract. Should Buyer fail to spay/ neuter said puppy by 24 weeks or 6 months of age, this will be a breach of contract and will result in forfeiture of the puppy and the adoption fee (except in the case of delay for medical reasons verified by a licensed veterinarian or at veterinarian's policy) or Buyer shall pay for Full Registration Rights for an additional \$6,500.00 fee.

If Purchaser fails to neuter/spay this puppy or does not pay for breeding rights, rights and ownership of the dog will automatically terminate and revert to Seller who may immediately assume possession of the dog. Seller's reasonable attorney's fees for recovery of the dog will be paid by the Purchaser. If Buyer is charged with breaching any part of the Contract and Seller should decide to litigate, Buyer agrees to pay attorney fees and court costs for said litigation. In addition, the health warrantee to the purchaser is null and void due to breach of contract.

In the event the dog's health, for some reason, does not allow this agreement to be honored by the date indicated, BREEDER must be provided with a statement from PURCHASER'S veterinarian that the surgery needs to be postponed and the reason for the delay. Based upon the veterinarian's evaluation of this dog the PURCHASER will contact the veterinarian and establish the earliest date that the procedure can be performed. PURCHASER will notify the BREEDER of this amendment in writing, at which time all other conditions of this agreement will apply and be enforced. **At no time shall the procedure be delayed beyond the dog's first birthday.**

It is the responsibility of the PURCHASER, not the veterinarian, to ensure that BREEDER has received verification that the surgery has been performed. Failure to comply with this agreement, unless otherwise agreed to in writing, will be considered a breach of this Agreement. Therefore BREEDER has the right to take possession of the dog or assume PURCHASER has bought the dog for breeding, therefore making PURCHASER liable for the current market value cost of a breeding puppy which is \$9,000 total (\$2500 and an additional \$6500 plus any legal fees incurred). All arbitrations resulting from a breach of this agreement will be held in the court systems within the state of Florida, Ohio or South Carolina depending on purchase location.

In the event of breach of Contract with regards to breeding this dog/puppy whether accidental or purposeful, Seller retains the right to cancel all health warranties, demand return of the puppy/dog purchased (without refund of purchase price), and retain all ownership claim to any offspring produced by the subject dog/puppy, together with any fees paid or received for stud service or deposits paid or received for all puppies produced.

If Buyer breaches any condition, Buyer will be solely and completely liable to any third-party purchaser or breeder of puppies resulting from mating this dog, or from collateral promises or agreements to mate this dog, and will agree to refund any money collected by or paid to another as consideration for active breach of this Contract and/or Buyer agrees to pay any monies due for said breeding and/or puppies related to the subject dog.

Seller will, in no way, be liable to any third-party purchaser or breeder who deals with Buyer, as it is customary in this business that owners of dogs must also own breeding rights to produce offspring from an intact dog and Buyer is obligated to inform any other interested party with regards to this Contract.

PURCHASER: your payment in full for the pet puppy constitutes your agreement with our sales contract.
Including spay and neuter requirement and training/socialization agreement.

Purchasers Signature: _____

RRL signature: Krista Waitz

Genetic Guarantee End Date is 2 years from Birthdate & Hip Guarantee End Date is 3 years from Birthdate

Rainmaker Ranch has agreed to all pages of this agreement