

Operational Plan for Animal Psychology Center
910 E. Watertown Street
Rapid City, South Dakota 57701
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This Operational Plan is to address the concerns raised by the Advisory Council to the Rapid City Planning and Zoning Board in regard to the business practices of Animal Psychology Center.

APC's Goal: Our goal is to have happy and emotionally healthy dogs. Dogs don't bark excessively when they are content. So our methods are designed to produce a structured stable environment which is filled with fun and playtime.

I. Kenneling and Overnight Animal Care Services - Boarding is one of the services provided by Animal Psychology Center, Inc. (APC).

A. Capacity: APC will be able to house up to 45 dogs at a time given its current location and facility.

1. Indoor small dog area with dimensions: 13 feet long by 12.5 feet wide
2. Indoor large dog area with dimensions: 59 long feet by 29 feet wide
3. Sleeping accommodations for night shift staff: 12 feet long by 12 feet wide
4. Tin covered outdoor dog run with pine shavings with one side being next to the building: 64 feet long by 17 feet wide
5. Chain link fenced outdoor exercise area: one-sixth of an acre
6. 4 Inside dog runs each 5 feet by 10 feet
7. 33 Inside dog crates
8. 4 portable puppy pens –these pens are used primarily inside but when the weather is nice, we sometimes set a puppy pen outside so the puppies can get some fresh air and sunshine.
9. Additionally, clients are welcome to bring their own dog crate so their dog will be more comfortable during its stay at APC.
10. Inside private suite with dimensions: 8 feet long by 6 feet wide. This suite is reserved for dogs who are too shy to be comfortable with a group of dogs.

B. The number of dogs housed at APC each day varies, however, an example of the type and number of dogs housed would be 5 large dogs, 10 medium dogs, and 30 small dogs or puppies.

C. Research into the capacity of similar boarding facilities:

1. **Safe Haven**, located in Rapid City, South Dakota, has a similar sized indoor facility but the outside area is smaller. It has a capacity of up to 100 dogs.
2. **The Daily Wag**, located in Denver, Colorado, has a similar sized indoor facility but the outdoor area is smaller. It has a capacity of 85 dogs.

3.The outdoor exercise pen at APC is approximately one-sixth of an acre. This area plus the large dog run next to the building exceed the outdoor spaces available at either Safe Have or the Daily Wag.

II. Measures taken to reduce noise:

A. Excessively barking dogs:

- 1.Excessively barking dogs will be re-programmed through verbal corrections and/or the proper use of a vibrating bark collar to redirect their attention.
- 2.Currently, the outside dog run next to building is sound buffered by the covered roof, a privacy fence on the west side, the building on the south side, and pine shavings covering the floor area.

B. Outside times for dogs:

- 1.In the morning, a maximum of ten dogs will be allowed in the outside covered dog run to relieve themselves for 40 – 60 minute intervals.
- 2.Small dogs and puppies relieve themselves on newspapers inside the facility. The newspapers are monitored continuously throughout the day and changed when soiled.
- 3.Dogs are allowed in the covered dog run throughout the day to have 40-60 minute intervals to relieve themselves.
- 4.The last shift for any outside time for the dogs will be from 8:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- 5.No dogs will be allowed outside after 9:00 p.m.
- 6.Our one-sixth acre outside exercise area is sometimes used to exercise dogs in the late morning or the early evening.

C. Overnight accommodations:

- 1.All dogs are separated and crated each night.

III. Addressing the possible future expansion of the mobile home park located in close proximity to the rear of APC.

- A. Owners of the mobile home park intend to build a privacy wall between the business properties and the mobile home park.
- B. APC's landlord intends to build a privacy fence to protect equipment stored on the back lot and to provide another sound buffer for APC and their tenant who is engaged in racing turbo charged high octane racing vehicles.
- C. If additional measures are needed, APC will build a privacy fence around the outside play area to further buffer any noise from the dogs.

IV. Addressing concerns expressed by a Rapid City citizen regarding cleaning practices:

- A. The covered outdoor dog run provides protection from the elements: (1) Shade and (2) Protection from rain and snow.
- B. The pine shavings are a deterrent for fleas and provide easy, sanitary clean up.
- C. Shavings are replaced several times per week.
- D. As per Dr. Michael Anderson's recommendation, we alternate the use of the commercial disinfectants Odorban, Pinesol, Mr. Clean, and bleach to combat bacteria, viruses, and eliminate odors. These cleaners are rotated on a daily basis.

V. Steps taken to meet the Rapid City, South Dakota rules and regulations for commercial signage:

- A. Katherine Andrews is going to meet with Chuck Jansen after she receives her permit to determine the requirements for signage and ensure that all signs are up to code.

VI. Additional modifications:

- A.** We have a private room for employees to use should it be necessary to provide overnight care for any of the dogs in our care.
- B.** If the Rapid City Planning and Zoning Board has any further changes, considerations, concerns, or suggestions, Katherine Andrews would be more than willing to meet with them to discuss these before the next planning and zoning meeting.