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## **Dog Paws Important Policy Change!**

I have thought about this Dog Paws family, and with the continued Veterinarian shortages, I am making an important change.

With the Veterinarian shortages and closures of 24x7 Emergency Vet clinics, the reality is that my options may be very limited. The sad reality is if Blue Pearl and Bright Eyes and Bushy Tails are not available for Emergent After Hours Care my options are to drive to Des Moines, Ames or the Quad Cities. I can tell you that some emergency situations don't have that long and the pet may pass away prior to receiving care.

**Effective 7-15-23**, I will require an End of Life Care plan for ALL Boarding Clients. This is a change from previously requiring End of Life Care plans for senior kiddos, those with significant health issues and for those where the Pet Parents traveling abroad.

I understand that this is hard to think about. Believe me, I have cried coming up with plans for my pack. However, my hope is that by making this a requirement for Boarding you will really think about your wishes for your kiddo even if they are not in my care because if something should happen you may not have much time to think about it, especially in an emergent situation.

### **What is an End of Life Care plan?**

It is an email to [cribpaws@gmail.com](mailto:cribpaws@gmail.com) in which you as the Pet Parent tell me what your wishes are for your kiddo should something happen at the Crib during their stay.

The subject line of the email should read “Pet Name” End of Life Care plan.

**Here is an example of an End of Life Care plan:**

If "pet name" requires veterinary care while being boarded at Dog Paws, I authorize up to \$1,000 for treatment of any condition.

If treatment would be more than \$1,000, I request that the Vet Clinic provide pain and comfort care measures until I can be contacted. If, in the judgment of Vet Clinic, pain can not be controlled to eliminate suffering, I authorize Vet Clinic to perform humane euthanasia.

My top priorities continue to be Safety and Quality of Care. Once I receive your End of Life Care plan I will ask any clarifying questions and keep with your kiddos chart. As always I am in constant contact with Pet Parents while your kiddo is staying at the Crib. I will do my very best to provide the very best care in Emergency Situations given the Veterinarian Shortages we are experiencing. I love all your kiddos as if they were my own!

If you have specific questions, please email me individually.

-xO

Kelley