



JDPC Closing Extended Through April 30, 2020

Just Dogs PlayCare closure will be extended again. How long? That's a tough one to answer. For right now, we'll say April 30th to keep in line with the most recent federal Stay-at-Home guidelines.

Here are a few poignant statements I read in Wednesday's Press-Citizen by Dr. Daniel Diekema, director of the division of Infectious Diseases with University of Iowa Health Care: "It's extremely important that we have the patience and the will to maintain these kind of shelter-in-place policies. I understand that the economic and social disruption that is associated with this is devastating. But I think there's some pretty smart economists that have looked at, over the long term, we'll be happy that we were able to bend the curve, even with the short-term pain that's involved." Speaking of how highly contagious the virus is, Diekema points out that it is able to live for an extended time on hard, flat surfaces, where it can be transmitted unknowingly by those who touch it.

Another article I read, written by Rob Picheta of CNN noted that "the British Veterinary Association said animals can act as fomites (objects that can become contaminated with infectious organisms) and could hold the virus on their fur if they are petted by someone who has contracted it....The virus could be on their fur in the same way it is on other

surfaces, such as tables and doorknobs."

Flat surfaces? Fur? Yep, we have both of those at JDPC. So for now, we're listening to science and keeping JDPC closed until we feel some reassurance that opening in any capacity is safe for everyone—human customers, dog customers, employees, and the community/humanity.

We truly apologize for the continued inconvenience. Last night I heard Cameron Mitchell, owner of dozens of Ohio restaurants, talk about the pain of laying off 4500 employees and the worries over the ultimate survival of his business during this industry transformational event. "One of my biggest fears," he said, "is not be able to keep earning the business that we have for the past 40 years to move forward." Guess it doesn't matter how big or small your business is—the pain and worry are the same. The unknowns in this pandemic are frightening. But as my dear Taiwanese friend said to me: "Must be hard on the business side of things, but saving lives is more important."

We are continuing to do all we can to raise the capital we need to both sustain the losses of being closed and to help us reopen when the time is right. Over the last 17 years we realize that Just Dogs PlayCare has become a staple of our dog-loving community, and we will do all we can to make sure it is there for you, your dog, the community, and our staff in the future.

Finally, we want to remind you of two initiatives we have going right now: Discount Daycare Packages and Gift Certificates and the Just Dogs PlayCare COVID-19 Rescue campaign on GoFundMe. Both are posted on our Facebook & Instagram sites, and we sure would appreciate it if you would SHARE these with anyone and everyone you know. Sharing is just as essential as donating, so it would really help us! Details for these initiatives also listed on our home page at www.justdogsplaycare.com. And here is a direct link to our GoFundMe: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/just-dogs-playcare-covid19-rescue>

All of us at JDPC truly appreciate the purchases and donations that have already occurred. They are a tremendous help!

Please know that we would love to hear from you—how you are doing, how your dogs are handling the changes, and any feedback or advice you might want to offer! We miss talking to you and spending quality time with your dogs! Thank you again for your loyalty and understanding.

Carol & Brad