

Chester Animal Clinic
12021 Iron Bridge Road
Chester, Virginia 23831
Phone 748-2244
Fax 748-5400



Courthouse Rd. Animal Hospital
3530 Courthouse Road
Richmond, Virginia 23236
Phone 745-2323
Fax 647-8741

Leptospirosis

Leptospirosis is a serious bacterial disease that infects dogs, people and several other types of animals, i.e. raccoons, opossums and deer. There are numerous types (called serotypes) of leptospire. Although each type is infectious only for certain animals, some infect several species including people. This means it can be transferred from one species to another.

These bacteria attack the kidneys, liver and nervous system. Many companion pets can be in 80% organ failure before they present signs of this disease while living with their family. Recovered animals may still shed the organism in their urine for up to 1 year therefore exposing their family in their living environment. This disease can be passed through urine, water and soil. Infected rats are a common source of Leptospirosis.

Vaccination is the best prevention for Leptospirosis. All dogs should be vaccinated annually.