RISK ASSESSMENT WIZARD

Pet Boarding Facilities

Risk Assessment

CONTACT DETAILS

IN AN EMERGENCY CALL:

Lead:	**Primary Contact:**
Participants:	

SERVICE/ACTIVITY DETAILS

Purpose:	**Date:**

Benefit: Allows socialization with other animals, improving behavioral development. | Ensures pets receive proper care, food, and supervision while owners are away. | Gives pet owners peace of mind knowing their pets are in professional care. | Offers medical attention and emergency care for pets if needed. | Provides a safe and controlled environment to prevent pet stress and anxiety. | Reduces the risk of home damage or pet escape when owners travel.

HAZARDS

HAZARD	RISK	RISK BENEFIT	MEASURE	RISK TO	RISK LEVEL
Chemical exposure	Respiratory issues, burns, poisoning	Ensures proper sanitation and hygiene standards, allowing the facility to maintain a safe and clean environment for all pets.	Store cleaning agents and chemicals in labeled, secure areas inaccessible to animals and unauthorized personnel. Train staff on proper usage, storage, and emergency procedures related to chemicals. **(ALL)**	Staff, animals	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
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HAZARD	RISK	RISK BENEFIT	MEASURE	RISK TO	RISK LEVEL
Choking hazards	Suffocation, obstruction, distress	Allows animals to engage in enrichment activities that prevent boredom and reduce stress.	Provide appropriately sized toys and feeding tools for each animal. Regularly inspect items for wear and remove any potential hazards. Supervise animals during playtime and feeding. **(ALL)**	Animals	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
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Dog bites to other dogs	Injury, stress, infection risk	Allows socialization opportunities that can improve dogs' mental and physical well-being, making the facility more appealing to owners.	Assess each dog's temperament prior to group activities. Group dogs based on size, play style, and temperament. Monitor play sessions continuously and intervene at the first sign of tension or aggression. **(ALL)**	Dogs	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
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Dog bites to staff	Injury, infection, long-term trauma	Allows staff to care for a variety of dogs, including those with behavioral challenges, expanding the range of clients the facility can accept.	Conduct thorough behavioral assessments before admitting dogs. Train staff in canine body language and safe handling techniques. Implement protocols for managing aggressive behavior, including immediate isolation and consultation with a veterinarian or behaviorist. **(ALL)**	Staff	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**

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Dog bites to visitors	Injury, legal liability, emotional distress	Enables pet owners to visit the facility and see their pets, fostering trust and reassurance in the quality of care provided.	Restrict visitor access to areas where dogs are housed. Supervise all interactions between visitors and dogs. Display clear signage indicating restricted areas and guidelines for interaction. **(ALL)**	Visitors	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
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Escape of animals	Loss, injury, legal liability	Provides pets with the ability to move freely in designated spaces, reducing stress and improving overall welfare.	Regularly inspect and maintain enclosures, fences, and gates to ensure they are secure. Train staff on proper handling and securing of animals during transfers. Utilize double-door entry systems to prevent escapes. **(ALL)**	Animals	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
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HAZARD	RISK	RISK BENEFIT	MEASURE	RISK TO	RISK LEVEL
Fire hazards	Burns, smoke inhalation, loss of facility	Allows the facility to operate safely with electrical heating, lighting, and air systems, essential for animal comfort.	Install and regularly test smoke detectors and fire alarms. Develop and practice an emergency evacuation plan, including safe animal evacuation procedures. Ensure electrical systems are up to code and free from hazards. **(ALL)**	Staff, animals, visitors	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
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Food aggression among animals	Fighting, injury, stress	Ensures animals receive proper nutrition while maintaining the ability to feed multiple pets in the same facility.	Feed animals individually in separate, designated areas. Monitor feeding times to prevent resource guarding and aggression. Implement feeding protocols tailored to individual animal needs. **(ALL)**	Animals	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
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Heat exhaustion in animals	Dehydration, heatstroke, organ damage	Allows for outdoor play and exercise, which are essential for a pet’s physical health and mental stimulation.	Monitor indoor temperatures and provide adequate ventilation. Limit outdoor activities during peak heat times and ensure shaded areas are available. Supply fresh water at all times and observe animals for signs of heat stress. **(ALL)**	Animals	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**

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Transmission of infectious diseases	Illness, outbreaks, cross-contamination	Enables the facility to accommodate multiple pets in close quarters, making it a viable business model for pet boarding.	Require proof of up-to-date vaccinations before admission. Isolate new or symptomatic animals until cleared by a veterinarian. Implement rigorous cleaning and disinfection protocols for all areas and equipment. **(ALL)**	Animals, staff	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
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Transport-related injuries	Falls, overheating, trauma	Expands services such as pet pickup and drop-off, making the facility more convenient for clients.	Use secure, well-ventilated carriers and ensure vehicles have temperature control. Train staff in safe loading and unloading procedures. Use slip-resistant surfaces in transport areas and avoid transporting animals in extreme weather conditions. Keep an emergency pet first-aid kit in each transport vehicle. **(ALL)**	Animals, staff	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**

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Zoonotic disease transmission	Illness, cross-species infection, long-term health impact	Enables staff to provide hands-on care and interaction with animals, which is essential for their welfare and socialization.	Enforce strict handwashing protocols for staff after handling animals. Educate staff on zoonotic diseases and their prevention. Regularly deworm animals and maintain parasite control programs. **(ALL)**	Staff	Before Measure: **High** After Measure: **Med**
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Allergic reactions in staff or visitors	Respiratory issues, skin irritation, anaphylaxis	Allows the facility to cater to a diverse range of animals, ensuring no breed or species is excluded due to allergy concerns.	Identify and document any known allergies among staff and visitors. Minimize exposure to allergens through regular cleaning and air filtration. Provide personal protective equipment (PPE) as needed. **(ALL)**	Staff, visitors	Before Measure: **Med** After Measure: **Low**
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HAZARD	RISK	RISK BENEFIT	MEASURE	RISK TO	RISK LEVEL
Injury from equipment	Cuts, fractures, entrapment	Provides animals with access to play structures, bedding, and feeding equipment that enrich their stay at the facility.	Regularly inspect and maintain all equipment to ensure it is in safe working condition. Train staff on proper equipment use and safety protocols. Remove or repair any faulty equipment immediately. **(ALL)**	Staff, animals	Before Measure: **Med** After Measure: **Low**
Injury from equipment	Cuts, fractures, entrapment	Provides animals with access to play structures, bedding, and feeding equipment that enrich their stay at the facility.	Regularly inspect and maintain all equipment to ensure it is in safe working condition. Train staff on proper equipment use and safety protocols. Remove or repair any faulty equipment immediately. **(ALL)**	Staff, animals	Before Measure: **Med** After Measure: **Low**
Noise-induced stress in animals	Anxiety, behavioral issues, aggression	Allows multiple animals to be housed together in a social environment, improving their overall well-being.	Design facility layout to minimize noise levels, using soundproofing materials where possible. Establish quiet hours and provide quiet zones for noise-sensitive animals. Monitor animals for signs of stress and adjust care accordingly. **(ALL)**	Animals	Before Measure: **Med** After Measure: **Low**
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Slips and falls due to wet floors	Injury, fractures, sprains	Ensures that cleaning and sanitation standards remain high, preventing disease spread and maintaining a professional environment.	Implement a strict cleaning schedule to promptly address spills and accidents. Use slip-resistant flooring materials and provide staff with slip-resistant footwear. Place warning signs in areas prone to wetness. **(ALL)**	Staff, visitors	Before Measure: **Med** After Measure: **Low**

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Unpredicted risks	Illness, injury, death		Continuous risk monitoring conducted by all staff. Any unforeseen hazards must be reported promptly to supervisors or management, with immediate corrective action taken as necessary. **(ALL)**	All	**N/A**

NOTES

Extra notes & activity evaluation:

Completed by	Reviewed/Approved by	Risk Assessment Date	Review Required Date