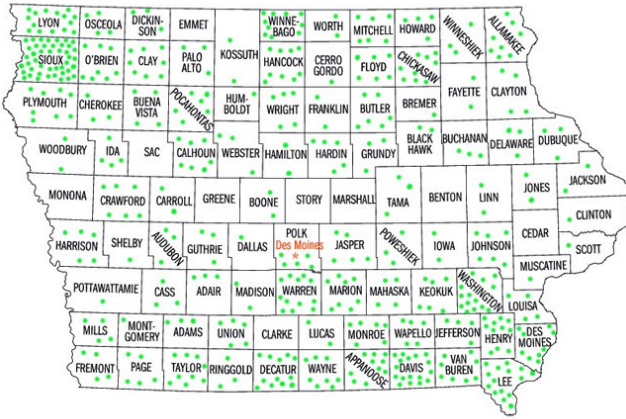


Puppy Mills in Iowa



There are an estimated 23,000 adult breeding dogs in Iowa's commercial breeding kennels!!



How Can You Help?

Join our grassroots effort! Sign up at our website www.iowavca.org and join Iowa Voters for Companion Animals.

Donate! Use the PayPal link on our website or send a donation. All funds will be used for lobbying purposes and are not tax deductible.

-Or-

Donate to our education and research funds, Iowa Friend of Companion Animals. Your donation is tax deductible!

Visit www.IAFriends.org

Our Mission

To advance the humane and responsible treatment of companion animals through research and education.



Before: This emaciated Shar-pei with atrophy of the legs was rescued from an Iowa puppy

After: The same dog after having the proper nutrition, care and exercise.

Iowa Voters for Companion Animals
(Iowa VCA)

Des Moines, Iowa

www.IowaVCA.org



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Iowa Voters for Companion Animals



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@IowaVCA



Iowa has the 2nd largest number of puppy mills in the nation with *more than 350*



Dog in West Point, Iowa mill. The 130 dogs at this kennel live in darkness much of the time

"The question is not 'Can they reason?' nor - 'Can they talk?' but rather '**Can they suffer?**'" -

Jeremy Bentham

Who we are: IowaVCA members are Iowans from every walk of life who are concerned about the welfare of companion animals.

Our current effort: To ensure the humane treatment of the thousands of dogs in Iowa's USDA-licensed commercial dog breeding facilities, also referred to as puppy mills.

What is a puppy mill?

A puppy mill is a commercial dog-breeding operation with an emphasis on high-volume puppy production for sale to dog brokers and to the public. The adult breeding dogs are typically **confined** in cramped wire cages and kept year-round in substandard or makeshift facilities with **little or no heat, ventilation, or sanitation features**. The animals' basic health needs; exercise, veterinary care, and social interaction - are routinely ignored, often **resulting in serious physical and psychological disorders**.



Iowa puppy mill in a semi-trailer; no heat
no ventilation, no running water

Puppy mills dogs are often:

- Overcrowded together in small wire cages or other makeshift enclosures
- Living in stacked cages so that the excrement of the dogs above falls upon those below
- Deprived of nurturing human contact, socialization or professional veterinary care
- Exposed to climate extremes in buildings with poor ventilation or temperature control
- Confined to cages with just inches of room to move around in
- Rarely removed except for breeding
- Bred every heat cycle until their bodies wear out or they develop other health issues
- "Disposed of" when they are no longer able to produce puppies—they may be shot, abandoned or in rare cases, relinquished to animal rescue organizations

Puppies raised in this environment often suffer health, genetic and temperament problems that plague them for life.

Support **I**owa **V**oters for **C**ompanion **A**nimals www.IowaVCA.org

Is there really a problem?

Yes! Iowa has the 3rd largest number of puppy mills in the nation with more than 350 facilities. Many house hundreds of adult breeding dogs. According to USDA data, there are more than 23,000 adult dogs in Iowa puppy mills. These reports also show that 59% of breeders were cited for violations to the Animal Welfare Act. Many are repeat violations.



Inadequate cage in a New Sharon, IA puppy mill leaves no room to sit, turn or lay down.

How Can I Help Stop Puppy Mills?

- Visit local Animal Rescue Shelters and **adopt** an animal instead of buying
- If you do plan to purchase a puppy, be sure to meet the puppy's parents and see their living conditions
- **Do your research!** Be sure to check our website, www.IowaVCA.org for all updated information regarding Iowa's puppy mill status