

WHAT MAKES A DOG BREEDER RESPONSIBLE

- **Always a Student**

- Seek to improve their breeds with every litter
- Devote hours to continually learning as much as they can about their breeds
 - Health and genetic concerns
 - Temperament
 - Appearance & Type

- **Involved with Dog Clubs**

- All breed clubs
- Obedience
- Tracking or performance

- **Study their Breed Standard**

- **Attend Dog Events**

- Dog shows
- Obedience trails
- Performance events

- **Read Books, Magazines, Websites**

- Individual breeds
- Groups of breeds
- Breeding and whelping
- Genetics
- Behavior and Training

- **Objective**

- Can separate their love for their dog from honest evaluation of its good and bad points
- Breeding is hard work
- Every breeding is carefully planned endeavor to produce a better dog.
- Recognizes a dog's flaws and find a mate with characteristics that will help reduce or eliminate those flaws.
- Seek assistance from informational resources, longtime breeders and the breeder of their dog.
- Develop an impartial eye to test their dog against others.

- **Conditions the Sire and Dam**

- Good puppies start long before their parents are bred
- Both sire and dam need constant care, or conditioning, to produce the best offspring.
 - Veterinary care
 - Screening for genetic problems
 - Pre-breeding health tests
 - Regular exercise
 - Good nutrition
 - Maintain dogs mental health

- **Nurtures the Puppies**

- Builds a proper nursery-dry, very warm and draft free. Big enough for the dam to move around and sides that safely contain the puppies
- Prepared for unusual but serious situations, dam with no milk, orphaned litter.
- Provides additional food and water for the dam while she is nursing the puppies
- Once the puppies are weaned, need to oversee feeding to ensure each puppy gets adequate food.
- First round of shots, may need grooming and provide plenty of playtime and opportunities for getting used to being around people.

- **Places Puppies Wisely**

- Make sure puppies go to owners who provide loving and permanent homes.
- New owners know what to expect, pros and cons
- Provides paperwork to register their dogs with AKC.
- Ask questions of prospective owners in order to get a feel for the type of home they'll provide

- **Responsible for the Puppy for Life**

- Good with the bad
- From Birth to Death