



HETEROBILHARZIA AMERICANA PREVALENCE STUDY

STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE
TO ENROLLING YOUR DOG

Help us study a little-known parasite in Portuguese Water Dogs

Heterobilharzia americana (liver fluke) is a freshwater parasite that can infect dogs when they come into contact with contaminated water.

Some infected dogs stay healthy, while others develop diarrhea, vomiting, weight loss, as well as liver and intestinal disease. Even dogs with limited exposure to water have tested positive in the past.

The **Portuguese Water Dog Foundation** and **The Drake Project** at Texas A&M University are partnering to find out how common *Heterobilharzia americana* is in PWD. We're testing both dogs with frequent water exposure and those with limited water exposure for this parasite and other common gastrointestinal parasites. This testing is offered at no cost to you through support provided by the Portuguese Water Dog Foundation.

Interested in participating? Here is all you need to do:



Scan the QR code/visit:
<https://forms.gle/SKgfkSzk4z8vjgvr7>



Adobe Sign

Keep an eye out for an email from AdobeSign and sign the form online

This will be sent to you in a separate email from The Drake Project

At the 2025 PWDC National Specialty

PLEASE KEEP READING FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Participation requirements

- Dogs must be at least 6 months old
- Please collect only one voided fecal sample per dog
- Sign the informed owner consent form
 - This is a general form used for a variety of *H. americana* studies
 - For this study, **we only need one fecal sample** — no blood, urine, or multiple samples are required
 - Signing the form does not commit you to any further participation or obligation
- **Complete a separate questionnaire for each dog**
(if you have more than 5 dogs, we can help collect the information).

Collecting a fecal sample

- For collection supplies and submission, **look for the PWDF Banner near the secretary table at the water trial and the grooming set up** for the rest of week!

Test results

- Results will be shared with you and your veterinarian once the consent form has been signed, the questionnaire completed, and the test results are available.

Questions? Please contact us at thedrakeproject@tamu.edu