

AWS DNA Sample Collection Campaign

Sponsored by the Health and Genetics Committee of the American Water Spaniel Club...

The Committee is organizing and sponsoring this initiative to collect as many AWS DNA samples as possible, along with corresponding health information about each dog, for the Canine Health Information Center (CHIC) DNA Bank, to facilitate future research and testing aimed at reducing the incidence of inherited diseases in our dogs. Based on results gained from past blood samples (cardiac, epilepsy, and degenerative myelopathy), more discriminating AWS breeding practices have been implemented. On the importance of DNA research to the AWS breed and your American Water Spaniel, see the 2009 information provided by the H&G Committee for a previous blood draw:

<http://www.americanwaterspanielclub.org/pdf/CHIC%20DNA%20Repository%20n%20your%20AWS.pdf>

Free DNA Collection Clinic at the 2017 National Specialty in Clintonville, Wisconsin

The Health and Genetics Committee will sponsor a DNA collection clinic for our breed at the American Water Spaniel National Specialty on August 2, 3 and 5, 2017. The Committee will provide the testing kit, veterinary personnel, and shipping **free of charge to you**. *If you wish to pay the \$10 cost of each of your dog's sample kits (a special rate given by the OFA for Nationals), you will receive a free raffle ticket (for each sample) for the Health and Genetics crate raffle – an L.L.Bean “Ruff Tough” intermediate size crate (retail value c. \$200) -- the drawing will be held at Nationals.*

Complete the application in advance of the Clinic by downloading and completing the CHIC DNA form for each dog to be sampled: [chic_dnabankapp_main.pdf](#)

Then bring your paperwork to Nationals, and the Committee will send it in along with the collected samples. Forms will also be available for you to complete at Nationals.

Those who are in the area, members and non-members, are encouraged to participate in the Clinic.

For AWS Owners Who Cannot Attend Nationals: DNA -- Blood collection kits are available for all American Water Spaniel owners from the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals. The kit (one for each dog you will have sampled) should be taken to your veterinarian to obtain the blood sample, and forward it to the CHIC DNA Bank. The cost of the kit is \$20, which the Health and Genetics Committee will **reimburse** to the dog owner on communication from the dog's veterinarian that the sample has been taken and forwarded. Some veterinarians often give a price break in the interest of research. *A raffle ticket will be filled out for you and placed in the drawing at Nationals for each sample.*

For more information and to answer any questions you might have, Frequently Asked Questions (Chic DNA Repository) are available at <http://www.ofa.org/chicdnabank.html>

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