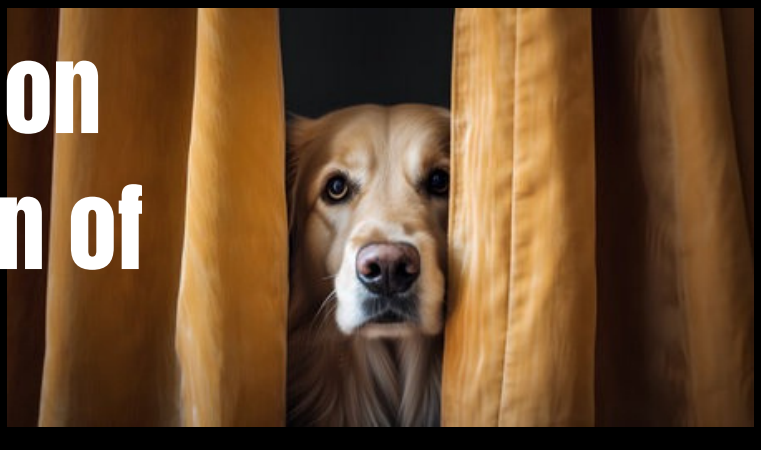
What really goes on behind the curtain of Puppy Mills?



Puppy Mills are establishments that breed puppies for sale, typically on an intensive basis, and in conditions regarded as inhumane. They commonly sell through internet sales, online ads, flea markets, and pet stores.

10,000 puppy mills are estimated to be currently active in the U.S.

500,000 dogs are kept soley for breeding purposes in all puppy mills

2.6 million puppies are sold each year after originating from puppy mills

Pennsylvania ranks 6th nationally for the most problem puppy mills on the Humane Society's annual "Horrible Hundred" list. Most mills are located in Missouri and the Midwest.

- Breeders are regulated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture; however, the minimal federal standards do not ensure a healthy or humane life for dogs.
- Facilities on the local level are governed by a patchwork of state laws that vary widely in their licensing, inspections, and enforcement.
- It is legal for kennels to have hundreds of dogs in one facility.
- It is legal for dogs to be confined to cages that are only 6 inches larger than the dog itself.
- It is legal for dogs to be in those cages 24 hours/day, 7 days/week for their entire lives.
- Dogs are often deprived of outside exercise and play, positive human socialization, and receive no veterinary care.
- Dogs are overbred and inbred to maximize the breeder's financial investment. Mothers breed for an average of 6 years, with no downtime between litters.
- For more information on puppy mills and how to spot them online, visit reputable sites such as Best Friends Animal Society, Humane World for Animals, and the ASPCA.

What can YOU do to help end puppy mills?

Learn the facts. BE THEIR VOICE, and start a cultural change that mills are never OK. Tell anyone and everyone!

Research. Educate. Advocate.