

Steps you can take to keep your pet healthy

1) Physical Exam: It is an important part of diagnosing disease and monitoring it. An exam should be done at least yearly or when you notice changes in your pet.

2) Vaccinations: Vaccinating against diseases your pet could contract is an important part of preventative care. We will customize a vaccine schedule for your pet. Available vaccines:

Dogs

DHPP (with or without leptospirosis)

Lyme

Bordetella

Rabies

Cats

FVRCP

FeLV (feline leukemia)

Rabies

3) Periodic Blood testing: Routine testing includes:

Dogs

Test for Heartworm disease

Test for tick-borne diseases

Chemistry panel

Cats

FeLV / FIV / Heartworm disease testing

Chemistry Panel

There are many cases of Lyme disease, Anaplasmosis, and Heartworm disease treated each year. These are serious illnesses, but initially the signs can be vague or mild.

Chemistry testing is used to detect disease, hopefully in the early stages. This is especially important as your pet ages. It is also an important tool for monitoring health when on long-term medication. Often testing the urine is helpful in diagnosing disease as well.

We recommend all cats be tested for Feline Leukemia and Feline Immunodeficiency Viruses for their health and the health of the cats with whom they may come in contact.

4) Oral Hygiene/teeth cleaning: It is important for the health of your pet's teeth and gums, as well as their general health. Inflamed and infected teeth and gums can be a source of infection that spreads through the body to affect organs such as the heart, liver and kidneys.

5) A periodic fecal test for intestinal parasites is important.

6) Protection against external parasites that spread disease: We recommend using Frontline Plus or Advantix during periods of tick and flea activity. (March - November)

7) Oral heartworm preventative: (this also includes a product that kills intestinal parasites). We recommend this year-round, or starting one month prior to mosquitoes, until one month after they are gone.

8) Spay and neuter: This will help with pet over-population, and decrease the risk of many disease of the reproductive tract (mammary glands, uterus, prostate, etc.)

Please call us or stop in if you have any questions.