



# Village Veterinary Medical Center

villagevetclinic.com

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## Your New Kitten

Thank you for choosing Village Veterinary Medical Center as your pet's health care provider. We understand your pet is a valued member of your family and we appreciate the trust you have placed in us to maintain a long and healthy life for your pet. Please visit our website at [www.villagevetclinic.com](http://www.villagevetclinic.com) for more information about our hospital. At Village Veterinary Medical Center we follow the latest guidelines regarding vaccine protocols. Our recommendations may change as your cat ages, has lifestyle changes, or as research progresses. We strongly believe that each individual pet has a vaccine protocol for that animal's individual needs, minimizing over-vaccination. Please feel free to discuss your pet's vaccine program with the doctors at anytime.

We recommend that every kitten be tested for Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV) and Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) at the first visit. We may also recommend this test in older cats with illness or exposure history. This is a blood test that is completed during the office visit. It is important to know your cat's viral status before introducing the cat to your household, as these viruses are contagious to other cats and can be life threatening.

We will also check your new pet for internal parasites that could be contagious to you or other household pets. Many kittens and cats have intestinal parasites which can cause diarrhea, vomiting and other signs of illness. Please bring a fecal sample to your first appointment to facilitate checking for intestinal parasites. If any parasites are found we will institute the appropriate treatment.

All of our feline vaccines are adjuvant free, minimizing the risk of inflammatory side-effects. We use only the Merial Purevax 1 year Rabies vaccine, as it is associated with a lower incidence of side-effects. The Purevax product is not currently available as a 3 year vaccine, so we currently vaccinate cats for Rabies annually.

Based on current American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) recommendations and Knox county regulations, we follow the following vaccination schedule:

**6-8 weeks of age:** 1st FVRCCP (Feline Rhinotracheitis, Calici , Panleukopenia, and Chlamydia- primarily upper respiratory infections)

**8-10 weeks of age:** 1st FeLV vaccine only for cats with risk for exposure (indoor/ outdoor, or live with an indoor/outdoor cat, or live with an FeLV positive cat.).

**12 weeks of age:** 2nd FVRCCP, 2nd FeLV if needed

**16 weeks of age:** 3rd FVRCCP and Rabies vaccine

**Annual visit:** The comprehensive physical exam is the most important part of the routine visit. Healthy adult cats will receive the yearly adjuvant free Rabies vaccine. The FeLV vaccine will be given yearly only as indicated in at risk cats. The FVRCCP vaccine is given as a 3 year vaccine. We may booster this vaccine more frequently in some situations, such as when a new kitten enters the household. A physical exam is required before vaccines are ever given.

According to current recommendations by the Companion Animal Parasite Council, The American Animal Hospital Association, the Heartworm Society and the Center for Disease Control, all cats, both indoor and outdoor, should be on a feline heartworm product that includes coverage for intestinal parasites. Therefore, we recommend that all cats receive topical Revolution or Advantage Multi monthly to control fleas, ticks, heartworms, ear mites and intestinal parasites. A fecal exam for internal parasites will be completed annually.

Cats live longer, healthier lives if they are kept indoors. Indoor housing minimizes the risk of trauma, contracting an infectious disease, and parasite infestation. If you are considering declaw surgery, we perform ONLY laser declaw surgery. Laser surgery is the most humane method of performing feline declaw surgery. There is minimal pain, swelling, and faster recovery with a laser procedure. We also provide proactive pain medications before and after any surgery. The earlier this surgery is performed, the faster the recovery time. We will perform this surgery as early as 9 weeks of age. Please feel free to discuss this procedure with us at anytime.

Neutering of male cats and spaying of female cats prevents unwanted pregnancy, reduces the likelihood of behavioral urine marking, minimizes the occurrence of mammary tumors and uterine infections and reduces the likelihood of territorial fighting causing abscess formation and virus transmission. We will schedule the spay or neuter surgery at the time of the 3rd kitten booster or at the time of declaw surgery.

Cats' nutritional needs change as they age. We will recommend diets specific for different life stages or disease processes if needed. We offer diets specific for your pet's stage of life, as well as prescription diets tailored to control or manage certain disease states. Weight management is very important, as overweight cats have an elevated risk of serious disease such as Diabetes Mellitus and Hepatic Lipidosis. It is easier to keep a cat trim than to convince a cat to lose weight. Be aware of the Body Condition Score Chart in the exam rooms so you can identify a small weight problem before it becomes a BIG weight problem.

At Village Veterinary Medical Center we practice proactive preventive medicine. As your cat progress to the Golden years, becoming a senior pet, we will discuss the Senior Care Program. This program emphasizes wellness and preventive medicine in an attempt to identify underlying diseases before they progress. Early detection of chronic or cancerous disease yields more treatment options than end-stage diagnosis. We hope to maintain a good quality of life for you and your senior pet through this screening program.

Our goal is to offer you and your pet the most up-to-date, high quality medicine available. We strive to offer excellence in quality of medicine, quality of care, and quality of communication. Thank you for trusting us with the care of your new family member.

*Our mission at Village Veterinary Medical Center...*

*to provide the best in medical and surgical care for our patients, with a gentle hand and a kind heart and with compassionate understanding of what the individual patient means to its human family members; to educate our clients and ourselves on "wellness" and to strive to maintain our patients' health by thorough attention to and emphasis on prevention of disease; and to diagnose and treat illness, with constant awareness of the importance of quality of life for our patients.*

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 7:30am - 6:00 pm

Wednesday, 9 am - 6:00 pm

Saturday, 8:30 am – 4:00 pm

For after-hours emergencies, we refer our patients to the Animal Emergency and Specialty Center at 10213 Kingston Pike; ph 693-4440

