



Village Veterinary Medical Center

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Your New Puppy

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 for more information about our hospital.

Parasite prevention and control is essential to your pet's overall health. All of the southern states, including Tennessee, are endemic for canine heartworm disease. Heartworms are parasites that live in the heart and associated arteries of infected dogs. Dogs may acquire this infection through mosquito bites. We recommend all of our canine patients be on monthly heartworm prevention on a year-round basis. All dogs 6 months of age or older must have a heartworm test before preventive may be started. They are then tested annually for heartworm disease according to recommendations by the American Animal Hospital Association and the Heartworm Society. We will discuss the best parasite prevention product for your dog during the initial visit.

At your pet's first exam we will check a fecal sample for internal parasites that could be contagious to you or other household pets. Many puppies have intestinal parasites that can cause diarrhea, vomiting and other health problems. If any parasites are found we will institute the appropriate treatment. Pets will be checked at least annually for internal parasites according to recommendations set by the Centers for Disease Control. Please bring a fecal sample to your first appointment to facilitate parasite testing.

At Village Veterinary Medical Center we follow the latest guidelines regarding vaccine protocols. Our recommendations may change as your pet ages, has lifestyle changes, or as research progresses. We strongly believe that each individual pet has a vaccine protocol for his/her individual needs, minimizing over-vaccination. Please feel free to discuss your pet's vaccination program with the doctors at anytime.

Based upon current American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) recommendations and Knox county regulations, we recommend the following vaccination schedule for puppies:

6-8 weeks of age: Distemper, Adenovirus Type 2, Parvovirus: Series of 3 vaccines 3-4 weeks apart

6-8 weeks of age: Bordetella/Parainfluenza: Series of 2 vaccines 3-4 weeks apart

6 weeks or older: Canine Influenza vaccination with a booster in 3-4 weeks for at risk dogs only.

12 weeks or older : Leptospirosis 4 way vaccine for dogs at risk only: Series of 2 vaccines 3 weeks apart.

1 year Rabies vaccine at/after 16 weeks of age.

After the first year, the Rabies and DAP vaccinations may be given every 3 years. Yearly vaccinations include bordetella/parainfluenza, canine influenza, and leptospirosis. Your dog may or may not receive all vaccinations depending on his or her lifestyle and exposure. All pets must have a physical exam before they will be vaccinated. Our annual and semi-annual exams include a comprehensive physical, fecal exam, and heartworm test.

Male dogs can be neutered and female dogs can be spayed at approximately 6 months of age depending on their breed. Neutering or spaying promotes responsible pet ownership by preventing pregnancy and reducing pet overpopulation. Neutering and spaying also have health benefits including a reduced risk of dominance aggression, mammary cancer, prostatic disease, hernias, and uterine infections. Intact dogs that are prone to wandering have a much higher incidence of hit by car trauma and inter-dog aggression. We will schedule your pet's surgery at the time of the last puppy vaccine.

Dogs' nutritional needs change as they age. We will recommend diets specific for different life stages or disease processes if needed. Weight management is very important in maximizing quality of life in dogs and reducing the risks of many disease processes related to obesity. Overweight dogs are more prone to osteoarthritis and shorter life spans. 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. If needed, we will work with you to formulate a healthy weight reduction program for your pet. We also have diets available to help manage disease states such as renal failure, inflammatory bowel disease and food allergies.

At Village Veterinary Medical Center we practice proactive preventive medicine. As your dog enters 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*; to *diagnose and treat illness*, with constant awareness of the importance of *quality of life* for our patients.

Our Hours

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

Wednesday 9:00 am - 6:00pm

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**

