

## Congratulations on your new addition to the family!

Your puppy will give you unconditional love and friendship that cannot be replaced. We, at Oasis Animal Hospital, want to help keep your puppy as healthy and happy as possible!

To ensure your puppy receives complete preventative care to protect against disease, we recommend a series of four (4) visits. During these visits, your puppy will receive the following to maintain good health.

#### 6-9 Weeks Old

- 1st Puppy Wellness Exam
- 1st DHPP Vaccine
- Intestinal Parasite Testing
- Deworming Based on weight, only if positive
- Heartworm and Flea & Tick Prevention First dose of heartworm prevention is free, Bravecto single dose during all puppy visits and price is dependent on weight
- Client Education Discuss questions or concerns

#### 9-12 Weeks Old

- 2nd Puppy Wellness Exam
- 2nd DHPP Vaccine
- Bordetella (Kennel Cough) Vaccine
- Intestinal Parasite Testing if positive previous visit
- Heartworm and Flea & Tick Prevention -Single doses are given during all puppy visits as the doses changes by weight range
- Client Education Discuss questions or concerns

#### 12-16 Weeks Old

- 3rd Puppy Wellness Exam
- 3rd DHPP Vaccine & 1st Lepto Vaccine (Combo)
- 1st Canine Influenza Vaccine
- Internal Parasite Testing only if positive last visit\*
- Heartworm and Flea & Tick Prevention Single doses are given during all puppy visits as the doses changes by weight range
- Client Education Discuss questions or concerns

#### 16+ Weeks Old

- 4th Puppy Wellness Exam
- 4th DHPP Vaccine & 2nd Lepto Vaccine (Combo)
- 2nd Canine Influenza Vaccine
- Rabies Vaccine
- Heartworm and Flea & Tick Prevention Single doses are given during all puppy visits as the doses changes by weight range
- Client Education Discuss plan for Spay/Neuter

Please monitor your puppy for any vaccine reactions such as vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy, pain at the injection site, hives, swelling of the face or breathing problems. These problems are not common but they can happen. Please call us immediately if you have any concerns so that the doctor can determine what treatment your puppy needs.

# Why Do We Booster?

Just like people, dogs receive a certain degree of immunity (known as maternal immunity) that is passed from their mothers at birth through her milk. Vaccinations cannot effectively stimulate the puppy's immune system until this maternal immunity wears off. Because maternal immunity declines slowly over time, puppies should be vaccinated every 2 to 3 weeks until they are about 4 months old. This ensures that the puppy receives an effective dose of vaccine soon after maternal protection is gone.

For these reasons, we recommend restricting access to unvaccinated dogs and public spaces until the full series of vaccinations has been given is important to avoid disease.

#### A HELPFUL GUIDE TO KEEP YOUR PUPPY HAPPY AND HEALTHY THEIR WHOLE LIFE:

## NUTRITION

Good food and plenty of fresh water are needed to allow your puppy to reach its full potential. We recommend feeding your puppy good quality puppy food for the first year of life. After reaching one year old, you can slowly switch your dog to a good quality adult dog food. Food brands we recommend: Purina Pro Plan, Royal Canin, and Hills Science Diet.

# **SPAY & NEUTER**

All pets not being used for breeding purposes should be spayed (females) or neutered (males) between 6-8 months of age. It is preferable to spay the females before they come into heat to drastically decrease their chances of developing mammary cancer. Males should be neutered at that age to decrease the risk of prostate diseases and behavioral issues.

## **FLEAS & TICKS**

Flea and tick control is important in keeping your pet both comfortable and healthy. In addition to causing allergic reactions, fleas and ticks can spread disease and parasites. Fleas can also be a problem for you! Once you get fleas in your home, they are very difficult to get rid of. These problems can be reduced or prevented with routine flea and tick control.

## **HEARTWORM DISEASE**

Heartworm disease is a serious and potentially fatal condition caused by parasitic worms living in the heart of our pets. Heartworms are transmitted when a mosquito bites an infected animal and then bites your pet. These adult worms can grow up to six inches long and can eventually cause severe respiratory disease, congestive heart failure, and death. Although there is a treatment available for canine heartworm disease, it is painful and can be dangerous for the dog. We recommend monthly heartworm prevention year round for all dogs. At each yearly exam, a simple blood test will be done to ensure your pet is free of heartworms.

#### **INTESTINAL PARASITE SCREENINGS**

Animals are susceptible to many types of intestinal parasites including worms. To determine if your pet is carrying any intestinal parasites, we must analyze a stool sample to look for their eggs. We recommend this test twice yearly. Tapeworm eggs are rarely found on the intestinal parasite exam therefore we rely on you to let us know if any are present. Tapeworms resemble rice and can be seen in the stool or on the hair around the tail or anus. If any parasites are detected, we will provide the proper medication to treat them.

#### **MICROCHIPS**

A microchip containing a unique identification number is inserted under the skin of your pet. This may be done at any time but is convenient to do the day your pet is spayed or neutered. Using a special scanner, veterinarians and local humane societies can read the chip, identify the pet, and contact the owners if the pet has been lost. It is very important that once your pet is microchipped that you keep your contact information, including address and phone number current with Home Again.

#### **YEARLY EXAMS**

After your puppy has gone through the series of puppy vaccines, it is recommended that your dog come in yearly for a comprehensive physical exam. Internal parasite testing, heartworm testing, and booster vaccines are also a part of this visit. Common diseases that we find on physical exams can be dental disease, ear infections, and arthritis.

## **SENIOR CARE**

Your dog is considered a senior at the age of 7. We recommend doing yearly blood work, a urinary analysis, and other diagnostics to determine the health of your older pet. These tests can show the presence of underlying disease. By catching these problems early, we can discuss ways to keep your pet as healthy as possible.

## **DENTAL CARE**

Untreated dental disease can lead to tooth loss and life threatening diseases. Bacteria from tooth decay and gum disease can enter your pet's bloodstream and result in infection in the heart, lungs, and other parts of the body. It is estimated that 85%-90% of all pets over the age of three years old suffer from some degree of tooth decay and gum disease. Deposits of plaque build-up on your pet's teeth which hardens and turns to tartar causing inflammation of the gums (gingivitis) and breakdown of ligaments that connect the teeth with bone and gum tissue (periodontitis). Home dental care as well as early and proper prophylactic teeth cleaning prevents these problems. Home dental care is vital to prevent plaque buildup and tartar. Many dental care products are available and we will be happy to advise you regarding the best option for your pet.

#### OUR CLINIC INFORMATION

