



Why Vaccinate?

Many serious pet diseases can be prevented by vaccination. Even if your pet is kept indoors, he or she can be exposed to viruses carried in the air, dust or on clothing. Vaccination schedules will be individualized for your pet's age, when they last received vaccines and other risk factors. Booster immunizations are necessary to continue protection.

Recommended Vaccinations for Dogs

We require DHP-P and Rabies vaccinations for most surgical procedures. Rabies vaccinations are required by the state of Illinois for all pets over 4 months of age.

DHP-P – D (Distemper) is a potentially fatal disease that can cause respiratory and neurological problems. Infected dogs and wildlife such as raccoons can transmit the virus to your pet. **H** (Hepatitis) is a viral infection that can cause coughing, vomiting, diarrhea, fever, swollen lymph nodes and an inflamed liver. Vaccination is extremely effective in preventing this disease. **P** (Parainfluenza) is a virus that can cause upper respiratory problems for your pet and make them susceptible to other infections. **P** (Parvo virus) causes severe bloody diarrhea, fever, vomiting, weakness, and dehydration. It can also lead to systemic infections that can be deadly especially for young puppies.

Rabies is a fatal disease that affects the nervous system. It can infect any mammal, including humans. Rabies vaccinations are required by the state of Illinois for all pets over 4 months of age.

Optional Vaccinations for Dogs

Bordatella vaccination is recommended for dogs that are going to be boarded, attend a training class or dog show, visit a dog park frequently or go anywhere else where they will come into contact with many other dogs. It helps protect your pet against "kennel cough" which is an illness that can cause a severe dry, hacking cough and can sometimes lead to pneumonia.

Leptospirosis is a bacterial infection spread through the urine of infected animals, including wildlife. It can cause potentially deadly liver and kidney problems in your pet and can also affect humans.

Lyme disease is a bacterial infection spread through the bite of a tick. It can cause fever, lethargy, loss of appetite and arthritis. It can also cause swelling of lymph nodes, vomiting and redness on the skin of the abdomen.

Wellness Schedule

6-8 weeks	Wellness Exam Fecal test for intestinal parasites DHP-P #1
10 weeks	Wellness Exam DHP-P #2 Bordatella (optional) Start Heartworm Preventative
13 weeks	Wellness Exam DHP-P #3 Lepto #1
16 weeks	Wellness Exam Lepto #2 Rabies (16 weeks)

6 Months Spay or Neuter
Microchip

1 year and annually thereafter
Wellness Exam
Fecal test for intestinal parasites
Heartworm test
Leptospirosis Vaccine

Every 1 to 3 years based on your pets risk factors and needs
Rabies Vaccination
DHP-P

Preventative Healthcare

Preventative healthcare is the easiest way to catch potential problems early and keep your pets feeling happy and healthy well into their “golden years”.

🐾 Heartworm is a potentially deadly, but completely preventable disease. Once your dog is old enough, we will start them on a monthly preventative that needs to be given year round to provide the best protection. Pets must also have a blood test once a year in order to avoid a possibly deadly reaction to the medication.

🐾 Intestinal Parasites can cause diarrhea, weight loss or intestinal bleeding in your dog. They also pose a health risk to people, especially young children. Your pet’s monthly heartworm pill will help protect against most intestinal parasites and a stool sample needs to be brought in once a year to make sure your pet is free of intestinal parasites.

🐾 Spaying or Neutering is an easy way to reduce the risks of some cancers, medical conditions and behavioral problems if done early in your dog’s life. It also prevents unwanted pregnancies.

🐾 Dental Examinations should be done at least once a year to monitor your dog’s dental health. If necessary, dental cleanings will be recommended. If periodontal disease is caught early in the gingivitis stage, it is 100% reversible. If it is ignored it can lead to painful periodontal problems such as painful gums, abscessed or infected teeth, tooth loss and even systemic problems such as congestive heart failure.

🐾 Fleas can cause major problems for both you and your pet. They can cause a lot of irritation to your pet and unless your pet is on a flea preventative can infest your house with flea eggs, larvae and adult fleas. There are several newer, safer and more effective products available to protect your house and your pet. One of our staff members can help you determine what is best for your and your pet.

🐾 Ticks are found in our area when the temperatures are above freezing and can cause significant problems for your dog. There are a number of different diseases they can transmit to your pet. The best way to protect your pet is to use a monthly topical product that will kill any ticks on your pet.

🐾 Behavioral Training starting at an early age is essential to ensure a long, happy relationship with your pet. The doctors and staff can give you advice on several topics and help you establish desirable behavior early on. For more serious problems, Dr. Rooney does take appointments for behavioral counseling.

🐾 Senior Care can help keep your pet healthy and happy for many more years. Once a dog reaches the age of 7, they are considered a senior. In order to detect potential problems such as kidney failure or heart and liver disease early, tests such as a urinalysis, comprehensive blood work or x-rays will be recommended.