



## Our Fear Free Commitment to You and Your Pet

We are proud to have Fear Free<sup>SM</sup> certified professionals on our team. We're as dedicated to caring for your pet's emotional well-being as we are for his or her physical well-being.

We'd like you to know some of the ways we meet that goal. Is your pet showing signs of bad stress and anxiety before arriving at the veterinary office? Ask us if pre-visit sedation or supplements might take the edge off and keep your pet happy and relaxed.

Would your pet be more comfortable waiting in the car rather than the waiting room? Just let us know, and we'll be glad to accommodate you.

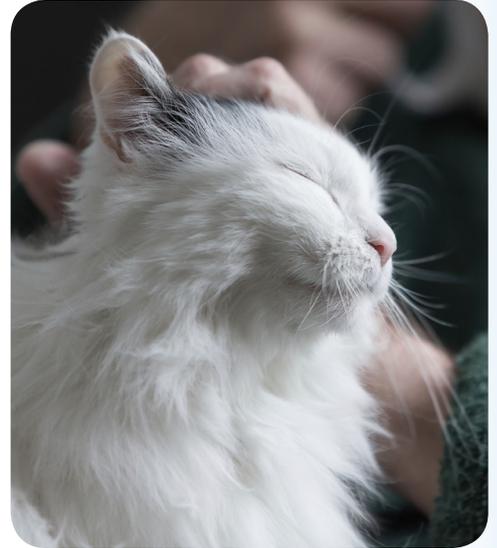
You'll be brought into the exam room a few minutes before your pet will be seen. This allows the two of you to spend some calm, quiet time together and give your pet an opportunity to explore the room and relax a little more.

Special calming chemical signals, known as pheromones, can also help pets relax. They are sprayed on our clothing and infused throughout the room. Only dogs and cats can smell them, and they find them relaxing.

We promise to keep our voices low and calm, and to never use force to examine, test, or treat your pet. We'll use gentle control techniques, innovative tools, and medication when necessary to ensure your pet's emotional health isn't sacrificed for the sake of medical care.

Unless it's medically inappropriate, we'll be giving your pet lots of treats during the visit. This is so he or she starts associating a trip to the veterinarian with good things! That will keep stress levels low. Bringing your pet into the appointment hungry can help this process along!

Some pets don't mind being examined up on the table, while others may prefer to stay in your lap, in their carrier, or on the floor. We'll go where we need to go to make your pet comfortable during the exam. We'll also do all we can to keep your pet focused on good experiences while we perform all necessary procedures such as blood draws, vaccines or injections that might cause brief stress or pain. That might mean a return visit (if your pet has reached its limit) to complete what's needed.



**Interested in learning more about Fear Free?**

**Please call Burr Ridge Veterinary Clinic at (630)598-0600**